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Thursday, August 28, 2025

Gus Macker Tournament proves successful once again

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament returned for its 10th appearance in the City of Otsego on Saturday, Aug. 23, and Friday, Aug. 24.

And the event shows no signs of waning in popularity.

To the contrary, the Macker only continues to thrive and grow, with a record number of teams participating this year.

The total of 441 teams was also the second most in the nation, according to Otsego City Manager Aaron Mitchell.

"I wanted to take some time to thank everyone that made this past Gus Macker weekend the success that it was," Mitchell said. "It was a great opportunity to show our visitors why Otsego is the 'Greatest Small Town in Michigan.'"

"The Greatest Small Town in Michigan!" has been Otsego's official slogan since 2023.

The group Together Otsego Prospers (TOP) organizes the Macker.

"Thank you to TOP and Gus Macker for putting on the tournament," Mitchell said. "Their work starts long before the tournament. The planning of this event takes a collection of committed volunteers working and planning for the tournament almost an entire year in advance. (It's) not a small undertaking."

As has become tradition, the Macker festivities started a day early with a collection of charity games on Friday, Aug. 22.

Teams were comprised of Otsego Public Schools teachers, administrators, coaches and players as well as a team from the City of Otsego.

Mitchell and his son Jackson were part of the City of Otsego squad that came up just short of defeating OPS varsity players in the championship game.

"(We were) a 2-pointer away from winning a Hoosier-esque championship against the varsity basketball team," Mitchell said.

The charity games benefit Wishbone Pet Rescue

"The charity games have been growing in popularity," Mitchell said. "They are always a good time, even when we lose."

The City of Otsego team began with a win over an all-women's team of OPS staff members, including new district superintendent Christie Robinson.

"It was interesting playing against (Robinson)," Mitchell said. "I didn't want to welcome her with a hard foul or pick, so I had to take it down a notch. Luckily, we were able to hit our shots and advance."

In the championship game against the OPS varsity squad, the City team members were "all sucking wind and felt stiff as a board," according to Mitchell.

"I felt like we needed some support, so I was seeking to temporarily hire a Gus Macker employee to be able to play for us to give us a chance," he said. "We couldn't agree to terms."

But the City team did get reinforcements in the form of Asst. Fire Chief Mike Bush's son Nate.

"He was a big injection of energy," Mitchell said of Nate Bush. "In the end, we played very well and were a 2-pointer away from winning. If we would've won that game, it would have been quite the upset. So overall I am pleased with how we played."

Otsego sophomore Wyatt Dennis attempts to drive past Otsego Middle School teacher/boys JV basketball coach Cam Ouellette during the charity games at the Gus Macker Tournament. (Photo provided)

As for the actual tournament, this year's event included a U8 Division for the first time, opening up the event to a younger group of players and helping lead to the record participation.

In addition to providing the City an opportunity to showcase what it has to offer, the Macker also provides an infusion of money for TOP, according to Mitchell.

"One of the products of Gus Macker weekend is cash," Mitchell said. "While the City does not receive money directly, TOP and other local agencies make significant revenues that go directly toward their operations to provide services and events throughout the year."

As always, Mitchell was quick to thank the residents who live on the streets where the tournament takes place.

"Thank you to the residents who had their lives turned upside down for a weekend," he said. "We do understand the inconvenience that the tournament is and appreciate your patience of this weekend."

Mitchell also had special words for the army of volunteers who make the event possible each year.

"Not many small cities can put on an event of this magnitude and be as successful as it was," he said. "That is a testament to our community and its volunteers. It takes an endless number of volunteers to put on the tournament. On top of that, there were many agencies that were selling food and drinks to the patrons keeping them here."

Mitchell urges anyone who is interested in helping with next year's Macker "in some fashion as a volunteer or vendor" to reach out to TOP or Otsego City Hall to get more details.

Wishbone Pet Rescue was once again the beneficiary of the Gus Macker charity basketball games, with spectators bringing donations that included dog/cat food as well as money. (Photo provided)

Otsego High School teacher/girls golf coach Michael Miller is guarded by Madden Fitzpatrick. (Photo provided)

Plainwell Schools share transportation information

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The 2005-26 school year official began for Plainwell Community Schools on Monday, Aug. 25, with a half day of classes.

And with the resumption of school, district officials wanted to share some reminders from the transportation department when it came to bus operations:

* Bus riders should be out 10 minutes before their pick up time.

* If you do not have a designated bus stop listed on the transportation route, your student can go to the nearest bus stop to be picked up.

* If you had a stop last year and you do not see it listed, please find where it would fall within the route schedule on the first day. Bus route updates will be made as needed.

* Please be aware that stops may be adjusted or updated based on overall ridership for each route.

* Elementary families: Please note that during the first couple weeks of school as the bus routes get established, the buses usually leave the elementary buildings later than normal for the afternoon routes, causing students to arrive home later than normal.

* Take note of what bus students are picked up on in the morning, as well as asking the driver where drop-off will be in the afternoon.

* PCS Transportation is happy to share that they will continue to use BusRight for the 2025-26 school year. The BusRight app allows you to keep track of your child's school bus route to and from school directly from your smartphone. Families are asked to check their email for additional information.

* If you have an elementary student at Gilkey or Starr elementaries, please ensure that they know their drop-off building for the morning route.

* Families can check their email for 2025-26 back to school transportation information.

More information about the PSC transportation department can be found at plainwell-schools.org/page/transportation. For a copy of the district's 2025-26 transportation rules, please visit http://bit.ly/3HRe6md.

For questions regarding PCS transportation or a student's bus route, families are asked to email Elaine Negus at elaine.negus@plainwellschools.org or call (269) 685-8080.

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INDEX

Classifieds B6
Puzzles / For The Record B7
Obituaries A7
Viewpoints A6, A7
Community Events A4, A5
Religion B8
Sports B1-B3

The Allegan Riverfront Plaza has a new feature thanks to a vision and community partnership. The gazebo, between the splash pad and firepit, is complete with porch-style swings that can be enjoyed year around by riverfront visitors. Photo: Parker Johnson

New swing set installed on riverfront

By Parker Johnson

The Allegan Riverfront has a new gathering space thanks to a successful community effort that combined inspiration, local talent, and strong partnerships.

Earlier this summer, the City of Allegan commissioned the installation of a custom octagonal leisure swing structure with four porch-style swings, now located between the Perrigo Plaza Splash Pad and the 20-foot-long gas fireplace. The idea was sparked when City Manager Joel Dye and Assistant City Manager Parker Johnson visited a Southwest Michigan community during a strategic economic development trip and were struck by the appeal of a large community swing set along the water.

In Allegan, a vacated riverfront space opened by the relocation of Allegan Event's zip line towers was a perfect fit. City boards, including the Downtown Development Authority and Public Spaces Commission, had been actively discussing ways to enhance the park by filling said space. Meanwhile, Allegan resident Tessa Thomas submitted a gazebo design inspired by the iconic Second Street Bridge as part of the Mahan Park Improvement Project. The design's character, color, and artistry helped shape the vision for the new swing set.

Building on that inspiration, Dye turned to Brian Hicks at Fabricated Components & Assemblies, a locally owned company in Allegan's Highland Industrial Park, who agreed to design, fabricate, and generously donate the steel structure. To source the swings themselves, Johnson worked with Country House Furniture, located in Downtown Allegan, who ordered them through their supplier.

Thanks to the generosity of community sponsors, the cost of the four swings was fully covered. Country House Furniture, A-Tech Computers, Tantrick Brewing & Stillhouse, and the Allegan Lions Club each sponsored a swing, making this project a true public-private partnership.

With the expertise of the City's Department of Public Works, the swings were installed the week of August 20. Quickly, people began making use of the new feature – whether enjoying the splash pad, stopping to sit while strolling the boardwalk, or relaxing to the sounds of Rollin' on the River, the City's free summer concert series. The season will wrap up August 29th with Cowboy Angels, a rock group from Bay City. The city encourages the public to check out the new swings while enjoying the final show of the summer. Live music starts at 7pm on Friday and the swings will be available year round for the community's enjoyment.

Ne-Yo concert cancelled at fair

The Ne-Yo concert scheduled for the Allegan County Fair next month has been canceled.

The announcement was posted on the fair's Facebook page last Tuesday, saying that the cancellation is "due to unforeseen circumstances." No further information was provided.

The concert was scheduled for Friday, Sept. 12.

Class of 1954 meets

Allegan High School classmates of 1954 met on August 13, 2025 for a luncheon at the Grill House in Allegan. Members present were: Gail Brindley, Robert Godfrey, Arene Brown Branham, Marijo Condon Cook, Don Miller, Delores Miner Kelly, Sally Burdick Fairfield, Joyce Strand Galloway, An enjoyable time was had visiting and remembering old times.

Is it time to consider additional support?

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It was a busy Riverfront Plaza on Fri., Aug. 22, 2025, for Rollin' on the River with The Fat Animals on the mainstage. The Perrigo Splash Pad kept children occupied, and the swings in the new gazebo stayed full with lively conversation. Photos: G. Voss

Allegan enjoys another great weekend of activities

By Gari Voss

The residents and visitors to Downtown Allegan enjoyed a wonderful weekend beginning Friday, August 22, 2025, and going through Saturday, August 23rd. The Fat Animals entertained the crowd during Rollin' on the River while the crowd enjoyed good food, drinks and conversation from the stage all the way to the splash pad.

Saturday began with a wonderful Pancake Breakfast prepared and served by the Allegan Area Fire Department members. Sandwiched in there was the 11th Birthday Celebration at Sassy Olive where artists of every age and skill level purchased frames on Sassy Olive's alley wall. In that frame, they could create whatever picture or design they wished. Owner Landria Johnson hopes to fill all of the frames before sealing the wall to maintain the wonderful creations.

The visitors and residents could return to the Fire House for a wonderful Spaghetti Dinner. Or they might wander down to the Eagles where the crowd enjoyed a Retro evening to remember the past 70 years. Patrons even came dressed in the styles of the 50s just to highlight the celebration. Then there was the stroll to Mahan Park where Lighting Matches shared their sets of harmonized music with the crowd.

Schools are back in session and Labor Day will herald the end of summer festivities, but Rollin' on the River will get in one last concert with Cowboy Angels and Music at Mahan will close out their summer series with the beloved Williams Family while Lake Allegan invites everyone to decorate their boats and join the Boat Parade around the lake.

The Eagles celebrated 70 years by retuning to 1955. Those enjoying the festivities often pulled out their 1950s dress and enjoyed a wonderful meal with music that brought memories of the 50s. Photo: G. Voss

The Sassy Olive celebrated their 11th year in downtown Allegan on Saturday, August 23, 2025. Friends and employees volunteered by purchasing a picture frame which had been outlined by owner Landria Johnson and friends on the alley wall. Because the space was rather 'wonkie', Johnson wanted to create something that would fit the weird spaces. Brushes and acrylic paints were furnished, and artists enjoyed creating and sharing creations with friends. When the paintings are complete, the wall will be sealed poly coat. The future plan is to tie Mandals on the Trowbridge Streets to the pictures along the alley. Special thanks to donors – Steve Tibbetts, Honor Credit Union, Tantrick Brewing, and Leggettville gave donations for supplies, while the Allegan Area Champer of Commerce and Eccentric Garden gave of their time prepping, and to ACE Hardware in Allegan for providing the thicker exterior latex paint at a discount. "This will continue to put art in Allegan," stated Johnson. "It is really an historical piece." Photos: G. Voss

At Allegan Fire District Station #1 on Sat., Aug. 23, 2025, individuals, families, and groups from around Allegan enjoyed a complete pancake breakfast and/or spaghetti dinner. Visitors to the firehouse could eat, look over fire trucks and equipment, and ask questions. Proceeds assist the firefighters in doing special projects and events for the citizens of Allegan and the surrounding area. Photo: G. Voss

Music on Mahan moved their concert start time to 6pm to accommodate the earlier sunset. The audience spread out across the newly refurbished amphitheater setting to enjoy Lighting Matches which performed alternative country with vocals that offered a variety of harmonies and acoustic instrumentation. Photo: G. Voss

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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of August 25, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Thurs, Aug. 28-Mon., Sept. 1, 2025: Rick Porter's Wagon Sale
Rick Porter's 108th Ave. Allegan A floating Yard Sale plus barns & house!
Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025, 6:30pm: City Music Hall – Peter Madcat Ruth's CARMa Quartet
City Square Park 116 S. Maple St. Fennville
FINAL: Fri., Aug. 29, 2025, 7-9pm: Rollin' on the River – Cowboy Angels
Allegan Riverfront off Hubbard St. Allegan
Sat., Aug. 30, 2025, 1pm: Lake Allegan Boat Parade
Joe and Anna Land / The Point / POW Camp / The Sandbar
Sat., Aug. 30, 2025, 7pm: Good Times at the Gazebo – The Williams Family
Mahan Park Gazebo Brady St. Allegan
Sun., Aug. 31, 2025, 8am-4pm: Allegan Antiques Market
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan

Be sure to order your tickets for entry, rides & shows
Allegan County Fair
Fri., Sept. 5, 7:30pm: Jeff Dunham & Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias
Sat., Sept. 6, 7pm: Cole Swindell
Sun., Sept. 7, 6pm: Off-Road Derby
Mon., Sept. 8, 6pm: Allegan Co. Fair Parade
Tues., Sept. 9, 7pm: NTPA Truck & Tractor Pulls
Wed., Sept. 10, 7pm: Flying Star Rodeo
Thurs., Sept. 11, 7:30pm: Gabby Barrett
Fri., Sept. 12, 7pm: SJO Motocross
Fri., Sept. 12, 8pm: Ne-Yo
Sat., Sept. 13, 7pm: Demolition Derby

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Aug. 27, 6-8pm & Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025, 1-3pm: Hand Painted Journals
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Paint journals together! Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025, 6:30pm: City Music Hall – Peter Madcat Ruth's CARMa Quartet
City Square Park 116 S. Maple St. Fennville
Enjoy some eclectic traditional & improvisational music.

Fri., Aug. 29, 2025, 7-9pm: Rollin' on the River – Cowboy Angels
Allegan Riverfront off Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy some Rock.

Sat., Aug. 30, 2025, 1pm: Lake Allegan Boat Parade
Joe and Anna Land / The Point / POW Camp / The Sandbar
Decorate your boat and/or make food and beverages to share with lots of people after the parade. If you decorate, show up at the entrance to the biggest part of the lake at 1:00pm to join the parade. Judges will be present.

Sat., Aug. 30, 2025, 7pm: Music at Mahan – The Williams Family
Mahan Park Gazebo Brady St. Allegan
Enjoy great Country, Bluegrass & Gospel.

Sun., Aug. 31, 2025, 8am-4pm: Allegan Antiques Market
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan
Shop a wide variety of antiques and collectibles.

Tues., Sept. 2, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2year olds can listen to stories and activities.
3:30pm: Animation Station – 4th-8th graders can learn foundational techniques inspired by the great animators of film and television! Register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Sept. 3, 2025, 6-8pm: Ugly Brush workshop
Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025, 1-3pm: Ugly Brush workshop
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn about directional strokes, building dark into lights, bringing depth to your piece. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Wed., Sept. 3, 2025, 6pm: Pintesting: Fall Leaf Bowl
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Make a fall leaf bowl. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Play & Learn with Help Me – Families can play and learn about "Talking is Teaching" campaign.

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025, 6pm: Composting 101 Workshop
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
Learn composting from the Great Lakes Mushroom Co & ACD. Register at alleganc d.org/workshops.

Fri., Sept. 5, 2025, 4pm: Stuffed Animal Sleepover Storytime
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
K-5th graders can bring a favorite stuffed animal friend to the library for storytime. The animal friend will spend the night, and kids can come to breakfast on Saturday and prick up their friend. Register at 269 673-4625.

Sat., Sept. 6, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10am: Drone Club - Meet Alan behind the library to fly drones, weather permitting. All expertise welcome.
10am: Breakfast Buddies – Participants of Stuffed Animal Sleepover come for breakfast and to pick up their stuffies.

Mon., Sept. 8, 2025: Register for Anchors Away! Cruise
Star of Saugatuck River Boat Saugatuck
Register to join the Safe Harbor crew on this fundraiser the securing materials for the Safe Harbor Safe Kids Prevention Program. The outing includes hearty appetizers and one complimentary non-alcoholic beverage along the way. A cash bar is available. Contact development@safeharborcac.org to register.

Mon., Sept. 8, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack - Bring a craft project, snack and chat.

Tues., Sept. 9, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can come for stories and activities.
6:30pm: Book Club – The Good Lord Bird – Join the discussion.

Tues., Sept. 9, 2025, 1-2pm: Love INC 101
Love, In the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
Current volunteers can invite someone who would like to volunteer. For additional information, call (269) 751-2533

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 2pm: Recess for Adults
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Come and enjoy conversation and games with friends of The Arc.

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 6-8pm: Anchors Away! Dinner Cruise
Star of Saugatuck River Boat Saugatuck
Join the Safe Harbor crew on this fundraiser the securing materials for the Safe Harbor Safe Kids Prevention Program. The outing includes hearty appetizers and one complimentary non-alcoholic beverage along the way. A cash bar is available. Contact development@safeharborcac.org to register.

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 6-8pm: Sunflowers
Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025, 1-3pm: Sunflowers
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to paint Sunflowers! Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime - 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
4pm: TAG – All teens can bring friends, share snacks, and plan teen activities.

Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025, 6pm: Mushroom 101 Workshop
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
A hands-on workshop with the Great Lakes Mushroom Company. Register at alleganc d.org/workshops.

Sat., Sept. 13, 2025, 11am-1:30pm: Acrylic Ink Abstracts
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Come out and play with acrylic inks and water. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Mon., Sept. 15, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
3:30pm: Kids' Anime Club - Bring your own Beyblade spinning tops and challenge friends to see who wins! All ages.
6pm: Craftastic – Halloween Potion Bottles. Decorate Halloween Potion Bottles. Register at 269 673-4625.

Tues., Sept. 16, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: Kids' Gaming Club. All ages can enjoy the new kids' Gaming Club.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025, 6:30pm: "Nerd" themed Pub Quiz
Tantrick Brewing Hubbard St. Allegan
Join us for a special "nerd"-themed Pub Quiz in collaboration with Tardy's Underground Comics and Collectibles! Registration begins at 5:30pm.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025: Bike Nights
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Thurs., Sept. 18, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: The Science of Cotton Candy. All ages can join the Dynamic School Assemblies.
6pm: Great Lakes, Great Stories: Felt Mansion. Register at 269 673-4625 to learn about a century of innovation, elegance, and transformation of the Felt Estate.

Thurs., Sept. 18, 2025, 1-3pm: Hydro Dip Switch plates
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn how to hydro dip using solvent based paints on these oversized switch plate and outlet covers. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Fri., Sept. 19, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
2pm: Professional Pumpkin Carving with the Lord of the Gourd. All ages can learn how to create unique pumpkin creations.
6pm: Teen Tech Night. 6-12 graders can experience virtual reality, explore the realm of 3-D printing, and play video games with friends. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Sept. 19, 2025, 8:30pm-12:30am: Glow Disc Golf Night
First Baptist Church S. M-40 Allegan
Fun for the family to support the Congregational Kitchen free meals.

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 9am-1pm: Fall Native Plant Sale Pickup
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
Order ahead or drop in to select from leftovers. www.alleganc d.org/fallsale

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 10am-4pm: Handmade & Boutique Fall Market
Allegan Fairgrounds 150 Douglas St. Allegan
Come shop in autumn vibes - unique gifts, one-of-a-kind home décor, or must have boutique pieces, there is something for everyone!

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025: Allegan High School 68th Reunion
Trestle Stop Hamilton
The class of 1957, the last class to graduate from the old Allegan High School, will have their 68th class reunion.

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 4-6pm: Eccentric Garden Plant Workshop
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sun., Sept. 21, 2025, 12 noon: Final Mud Run
Bear Swamp MudRun 2293 28th St. Allegan
Get ready to run. Tailgating is allowed with coolers and grills. Plus Hogg's Nest BBQ will be onsite.

Mon., Sept. 22, 2025, 3:30pm: Puppet-Building Workshop
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Ages 6-12 can join Mel Hatch as she teaches participants to create puppets. Register at 269 673-4625.

Tues., Sept. 23, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
1pm: Friends of the Library Meeting. All can join the discussion.
4pm: TAB Teen Advisory Board. All teens can brainstorm ideas, share books, and spark new connections.
6pm: Fall Foraging. Certified forager Allison Loraine will cover several species of edible plants as well as their toxic look-alikes, ethical harvesting practices, and basic foraging safety! Register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Sept. 24, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10am: Play Café. Caregivers can enjoy coffee and conversation while little one enjoy Play-Duh.
3:30pm: Native American History. All ages can learn about the rich culture and history of Native American peoples.

Thurs., Sept. 25, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: Tween STEAAM Club! 4th-7th graders can register at 269 673-4625 to enjoy making edible artwork.

Thurs., Sept. 25, 2025, 1-3pm: Violet Journals
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Paint journals with violets or anything you wish to paint. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Fri., Sept. 26, 2025, 10-11am: Health Hero's Nutrition Class
TBA Allegan
Healthy cooking class for families with children ages 3-5 years old. Register in English or Spanish at bit.ly/familiesconnected2026.

Fri., Sept. 26, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Sing Song Family Yoga. Kids & caregivers can join Deb Weiss-Gelmi for yogi, music, and literacy.

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Community Events

3:30pm: Fantasy Drawing Class. 6th-12th graders can join Natalie Budnick in creating fantasy creatures.

Fri., Sept. 26, 2026, 5-7pm: 4th Friday in Fennville
Celebrate downtown Fennville with food, fun and friends.

Fri., Sept. 26, 2025, 7pm: The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Follow the adventures of Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy into the Wardrobe as they battle the White Witch.

Sat., Sept. 27, 2025, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Join genealogist Megan Heyl to uncover family histories.

Sat., Sept. 27, 2025, 7pm: The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Follow the adventures of Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy into the Wardrobe as they battle the White Witch.

Sun., Sept. 28, 2025, 8am-4pm: Allegan Antiques Market
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan
Shop the antiques and collectibles.

Sun., Sept. 28, 2025, 2pm: The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Follow the adventures of Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy into the Wardrobe as they battle the White Witch.

Mon., Sept. 29, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
6pm: Bingo. All can play Bingo for prizes.
6pm: Prepare Fair. Sept. is National Preparedness Month so join first responders to learn and plan for safety.

Tues., Sept. 30, 2025, 10:30am: Lapsit Storytime
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.

Tues., Sept. 30, 2025, 1-2pm: Love INC Mentor Training
Love, In the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
Volunteers can join the LIFE Skills mentor team with this training. For additional information, call (269) 751-2533.

Wed., Oct. 1, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Fri., Oct. 3, 2025, 5-8pm: Halloween Hoot-n-Howl
Downtown Allegan businesses will hold some enchanted sales and offer special twilight hours.

Sat., Oct. 4, 2025, noon-9:30pm: Halloween Hoot-n-Howl (cont.)
Downtown Allegan will have Halloween=themed activities for kids & adults.

Wed., Oct. 8, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Fri., Oct. 10 – Sun., Oct. 12, 2025: Fennville Goose Festival
Downtown Fennville will be alive with a carnival, food trucks, live music, activities, and more!

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025: Bike Nights
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Fri., Oct. 17, 2025, 10-11:30am: Aquatic Center Event
Allegan High School M-40 N Allegan
Families with children 0-5 can swim free.

Wed., Oct. 22, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025, 10-11am: Health Hero's Nutrition Class
TBA Fennville
Healthy cooking class for families with children ages 3-5 years old. Register in English or Spanish at bit.ly/familiesconnected2026.

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, 5pm: Monster Mash
Downtown Wayland 103 S. Main St. Wayland
Enjoy a live DJ Scratchy Chan, 5-7 Trunk & Treat; 7:30pm Costume Contest & lots of great food and drinks. (Oct. 31st: Trick or Treating City Wide)

Sat., Oct. 26, 2025, 6pm: Murder Mystery – Murder in Sin City
Fenn Valley Vineyards Fennville
Beautify Pullman invites all to enjoy a evening in Las Vegas with Elvis (aka Ron Short) and partake in not only a murder mystery, along with food & drink, raffles & prizes, Blackjack. Poker, a Money Wheel and Roulette.

Wed., Oct. 29, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Fri., Oct. 31, 2025, 3-5:30pm: Downtown Trick-or-Treating
Downtown Allegan businesses will be open to Trick-or-Treaters. Come in your best costumes!

Fri., Nov. 14, 2025, 8pm: Alastair Watt - Pure MI Stand-Up Comedy Tour
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Alastair Watt, a small town city boy will do stand-up comedy at the Griswold.

Tues., Nov. 18, 2025, 6:30-7:30pm: Virtual Health Hero's Nutrition Class
Register in English or Spanish at bit.ly/familiesconnected2026.

Fri., Dec. 5, 2025, 5-10pm: Festive Friday – Holiday Parade
Downtown Allegan will begin with a free movie at 4pm at the Regent Theater and open the streets for the Holiday Parade at 7pm.

Sat., Dec. 6, 2025, all day: Fennville Holiday Celebration
Start the season with reindeer, sending letters to the North Pole, meeting Santa and holiday arts and crafts.

Sat., Dec. 6, 2025, 5pm: Snow Fest
Downtown Wayland 103 S. Main St. Wayland
Enjoy music, food, activities, a live nativity, & the lighting of the tree at 7pm

Fri., Dec. 12, 2025, 5-10pm: Festive Friday – Art Hop
Downtown Allegan will begin with a free movie at 4pm at the Regent Theater and open the doors of businesses to host artists.

Fri., Dec. 12, 2025, 7pm: ACP Annual Holiday Sing Along
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring the family and sing along to favorite Holiday songs. FREE for all ages.

Fri., Dec., 19, 2025, 5-10pm: Festive Friday –
Downtown Allegan will begin with a free movie at 4pm at the Regent Theater and open the businesses for special food and drinks.

Dec. 31, 2025, 8pm-midnight: NYE! New Year's Eve Celebration
Downtown Allegan will host an outdoor event featuring massive fire pits, food trucks, hot drinks, live music, a silent disco, ice skating rink, and Michigan's Largest New Year's Eve Ball will drop at the stroke of midnight.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityaction-allegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm

CITY OF ALLEGAN
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Planning Commission of the City of Allegan, Michigan, shall hold a public hearing on Monday, September 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 231 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI to consider the following matters:

1.A text amendment to the City of Allegan Zoning Ordinance to add Section 6.13, Fences.

2. Such other and further business as comes properly before the Planning Commission

A copy of the application and other related materials is available for viewing at City Hall during regular business hours. Questions and comments regarding this petition may be submitted prior to the Public Hearing to the Zoning Administrator at 1575 142nd Ave. Dorr, MI 49323 or calling 616-888-6156.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE the City of Allegan will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon five (5) days written notice to the City Clerk at 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI, 49010 or by phone at 269-673-5511.

JOEL DYE, MANAGER
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269-673-5511

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Is Cracker Barrel's new strategy, doomed?

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

With Congress on vacation for the entire month of August (how dare they) and very little else happening, the Cracker Barrel rebranding hit center stage in last week's news cycle. The CEO and Marketing Manager rolled out a new contemporary design for Cracker Barrel, and it was meant with strong negativity from many people, as well as a major slide in their stock price.

For decades, Cracker Barrel has been a roadside staple place where weary travelers pull off the highway for comfort food and nostalgia. With its checkerboard tables, rocking chairs on the porch, and walls plastered with Americana, the brand has sold more than biscuits and gravy; it has sold familiarity. But now, Cracker Barrel is updating its image, modernizing its décor, menu, and marketing to appeal to younger diners. While that might sound like a smart business move to some, there are real risks that come with such a shift.

The first concern is alienating its loyal customer base. Cracker Barrel built its reputation on tradition, not trendiness. Many people go there because it feels like stepping back in time, something different from the sleek, cookie-cutter restaurants found on every other interstate exit. If the chain strips away too much of its rustic identity in the name of "modern appeal," it risks losing the very thing that makes it unique.

Another drawback is that chasing younger diners often doesn't work out as planned. Millennials and Gen Z tend to prefer local, independent restaurants or fast-casual spots where customization and speed are king. Cracker Barrel isn't going to out-Chipotle Chipotle. By trying too hard to appeal to an audience that may never fully embrace it, the company could wind up in a no man's land—too modern for its longtime customers, too old-fashioned for the new crowd.

Then there's the risk of watering down the brand. A chain like Cracker Barrel thrives on authenticity. If the updates come across as forced or gimmicky, they could look like a corporation trying to manufacture cool rather than simply owning what it already does best. Customers are quick to pick up on inauthenticity, and once trust in a brand erodes, it's hard to win back.

Finally, there's a cultural element. Cracker Barrel has long been a symbol of Americana—part of the roadside fabric that evokes long drives, family trips, and Southern hospitality. If it abandons too much of its identity in favor of generic modern design, it risks erasing the very nostalgia that draws people in.

But despite the aforementioned, Cracker Barrel executives believe modernization will bring them a whole set of new customers that might offset what they had in the past. To be fair, executives have watched as Cracker Barrel has fallen in popularity. They needed to do something to keep afloat. But apparently they followed the same ill-advised marketing path as Bud Lite.

Personally, I think they should have went in the other direction- create more nostalgia, create more home cooking recipes. There is a wave of popular television shows, movies and the like depicting life as it was in earlier times. Heck I would place TV sets all over each Cracker Barrel, playing Little House on the Prairie, Bonanza and other television shows.

At its best, Cracker Barrel offers travelers something timeless: a plate of comfort food and a rocking chair out front, a reminder of simpler times. The company would do well to remember that not everything needs updating—sometimes, tradition itself is the strongest brand strategy.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Over the past few years, we have heard the phrases "sanctuary city" and "sanctuary state"
many times. In the US, it has become politically divisive because sanctuary cities and states have traditionally been labeled liberal or "blue states" where the Democratic Party prevails. Depending on the circumstances, undocumented individuals, those who are in need of medications or procedures that have become illegal elsewhere, other forms of care, or others who suffer political, economic, or social oppression, were given legal protection from those who sought to apprehend and repress them.

There is nothing new about this. It is a tradition that dates back some 3,000 or more years to the time of Moses. In the Book of Numbers, we read that there were at least six Sanctuary Cities spread across ancient Israel.

In ancient Israel, if someone died under unnatural circumstances or war, such as an accident that could possibly have been prevented, accidental homicide or even intentional murder, it was up to the family to apprehend the suspect and take the person to a judge for a trial. But it was also up to the family of the deceased to settle for what became known as "Blood Money" or to execute the criminal.

Sometimes, it was far more convenient and even satisfying for the deceased's family to take their revenge without a trial. This is pure vigilantism at its worst. However, if the accused could flee to one of the sanctuary cities, they knew they would be protected from revenge. A proper trial would be held, and the judges would render a decision.

The concept of sanctuary continued into the Christian era. As in the more ancient past, if the accused could reach the doors of a parish church or cathedral, they could claim sanctuary and be placed under the protection of the church. That was sometimes more theoretical than reality.

When King Henry II turned on close friend, courtier, the Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas a Becket, in 1170, three of his knights attempted to ingratiate themselves with the monarch. They rode from London to Canterbury, broke into the cathedral, and found Becket praying before the altar. There, they killed him. Overall, it does not get much worse than that: Murder in a holy, sacred place.

Perhaps the best-known literary example of sanctuary is in Victor Hugo's magnificent novel, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, where Esmeralda is surrounded by a vicious crowd wanting her death, simply because she is a Gypsy and not native-born French. Quasimodo, swoops down on a bell rope, scoops her up, and shouts, "Sanctuary! Sanctuary!" as he whisks her away to safety. Her life is now safe.

Claiming and providing sanctuary has always been with us, often in different ways. In the years leading up to the Civil War, there were homes along the Underground Railroad where slaves could find a safe haven as they journeyed toward the Canadian border. In Europe during the Nazi era, individuals and families risked their lives to protect Jews and others who were desperate to avoid persecution and death. The best examples are of Anne Frank, and the industrial Oskar Schindler. Just as significantly, but less well known, were scores of diplomats who risked their lives as they signed documents to allow Jews to escape. All of them violated laws that had serious repercussions. It did not matter; doing the right thing was what counted.

At other times, America acted very shamefully, such as in 1939. The St. Louis steamship departed Germany with 900 German Jews seeking sanctuary, first in Cuba and then in the US. Both countries, because of prejudice and fear, refused permission for the ship to land. Instead, it returned to Germany where most of its passengers were sent to the execution camps.

This tradition of sanctuary is still with us, often in different forms. A year or so ago, a man who was wanted for murder, made his way to a United Methodist Church along the lakeshore. He went inside, sought out the past, and asked for sanctuary so he could safely surrender to the authorities. The minister followed the church's tradition of helping him.

To provide any form of sanctuary always means taking risks. In America, everyone involved in the Underground Railroad violated the Fugitive Slave Act, which meant imprisonment or fines for those who provided sanctuary. In occupied Europe, giving sanctuary to the Jews and others often meant immediate execution or a one-way railroad ride to the extermination camps. It means breaking evil laws to do the right thing, regardless of the dangers.

Providing sanctuary has always been a dangerous act. The authorities, both secular and sometimes sacred, do not like it. It is inconvenient to them and gets in their way. They want power and control; they want things done their way. When an individual or family made provisions for escaping slaves to stay on their property, they were defying the federal government. In some instances, they were defying the teachings of the church. In those moments, they were not the 'good guys' but the law-breakers who were the dangerous radicals taking the law into their own hands.

Today, the whole question of protecting and caring for the most vulnerable people in our country remains with us. Right now, ICE and Homeland Security, and other federal and state organizations are working hard to round up anyone suspected of being in our country without the right documentation. Their propagandists and supporters say it is to remove dangerous, and always violent, dangerous criminals. They use that message to justify sometimes strong-arm tactics and intimidation, such as breaking up families. And yes, some of the "illegals" as they like to call them, have a criminal record. The majority do not because they were trying to escape crime and gang violence in their own country. Others came to America for sanctuary from political repression and violence at home..

Most of the animosity toward immigrants is based on a four-letter word - fear. Fear comes in many different forms. People are afraid they might take jobs away from 'real' Americans. They are afraid their religion or denomination might become too strong and take over. People are afraid property values might drop if others move into neighborhoods. Regardless of how we dress it up or justify it, it is still fear.

It comes down to each individual: Are you a person of courage, or of fear?

The problem of sanctuary is far more extended than we might realize. Hitler began his pogrom of terror by attacking an easy target - the Jews. When no one challenged him or said 'no' he continued. The union members, socialists, gays and lesbians, gypsies, and then the peasants of eastern Europe became his targets. He tentatively attacked the Lutheran church, and then the Catholics. No one stood up to him and said that his actions were wrong.

He was so emboldened that his own senior military were afraid to say 'no' to him. In the late 1930s, Czechoslovakia had the largest and strongest army on the European continent. When Hitler moved in on their territory, he said that if the Czechs fought back, the Germans were to instantly disengage and withdraw. The Czechs did not fire back, and that emboldened Hitler all the more.

This past Tuesday I talked with a good friend who had posted a notice a friend received from her insurance company who protects her house. It was a new list exclusions that would not be covered in case of a civil war. You read that right - the insurance company is planning for a civil war in our country.

We hope and pray it does not come to that. The best way to avoid it is to stand shoulder to shoulder with those who ask for sanctuary and for our connection with them. The reason question is: Do you have the courage to offer sanctuary to those in desperate need?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ground Avelo Airlines

Dear Editor:

Sound the alarm: Avelo Airlines has been flying at Gerald Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids, since May. Marketed as "America's Most Reliable Airline" with regular passenger flights, Avelo has been less transparent about being the first commercial airline to contract with ICE for immigrant deportations. USAspending.gov listed the first 6- month contract nationwide with ICE and Avelo's contractors, CSI Aviation, for $78.1 Million.

This "Blood Money" pays Avelo to often operate secret unmarked deportation flights, with no guarantee of Due Process or legal representation, for the immigrants involved.

While no news of immigrant deportation flights from Grand Rapids has yet hit the radar, it seems inevitable with the largest ICE detention facility in the Midwest being developed in Baldwin, Michigan!

If the Cruelty of ICE and lack of human decency, appalls you, do something. If you cannot condone the kidnapping of ordinary men, women and children off the streets and their flights in shackles and leg irons to detention centers or deportation abroad, act. Go to Groundavelo.org and refuse to fly Avelo or any airline partnering with ICE to deport human beings.

Write the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the Gerald Ford International Airport CEO and Board Members. Tell them that airports are supposed to welcome people –not to terrorize them. Tell them that Avelo Airlines' profit from cruelty is morally wrong and a stain on the reputation of the Gerald Ford Airport and the local community.

Jo Bird

Reader supports rank choice voting

To the editor:

A recent email from Rep. Huizenga tells how, as a father of five, he has supported education, Head Start, STEM, assistance to low income students, first generation college students, and students with disabilities. He must have dug this email out from old archives, back when he allegedly supported children of working Americans. That would be before he began openly supporting children of robber barons. His vote for the Big Ugly Bill does away with all of these initiatives he claims to have supported back then and now gives huge unfunded tax breaks to billionaires so they can send their kids to elite schools.

He is not alone in his efforts. An Allegan resident who is cosplaying the part of a state representative in the Michigan legislature must believe freedom only belongs to dudes in big pickup trucks flying the Stars and Stripes (or Stars and Bars) out the back. Rachelle Smit successfully led the effort to pass a bill in the state house which would ban Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). Apparently, she believes general elections should continue to be decided in primaries, where fewer people show up to vote for a limited number of candidates put forward by big donors and party leaders. By the time the general election rolls around in November, voters are left with the choice between a well funded incumbent and a relative unknown. This has often worked to keep poor quality candidates in power. Those candidates, once elected, are unaccountable to voters and are left free to do the bidding of well paid lobbyists and party leaders rather than serve the people who actually voted for them. Ms.Smit goes on to complain that if RCV becomes Michigan law, "voters will have to be more informed before they vote." Hmm, is this a bad thing? Does she just want poorly informed voters coloring in the bubble next to her name?

The success of democracy demands a well informed electorate. Is this something either party should ignore? The US Constitution provides a framework for a republic but we elect our representatives democratically. That is, the person who gets a majority of the votes represents and is accountable to every person living in the district. RCV creates a campaigning atmosphere where politicians must appeal to a broader spectrum of voters. Think of it as eliminating negative campaigning, since the politician will have to appeal to a broader population rather than a narrow base.

Ms. Smit has help in keeping voters ill prepared and poorly informed. (Trump loves the poorly informed.) Matt Hall, who is also cosplaying a representative from the next district to the east, is trying his best to pass a Michigan budget bill which would cut education, give big tax giveaways to corporations, and roll back progress on climate and clean energy. When voters blackened the bubble next to his name, did they really know Mr. Hall would work against their own self interests? Did they know he is accountable only to his donors? Were his voters well informed or were they only targeted with negative campaigning aimed at the opposing candidate or party?

To become informed about Ranked Choice Voting, go to: https://rankmivote.org. It's probably the best thing that could happen to democracy since Michigan voters passed the amendment to end gerrymandering in this state.

William and Mary Jones

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES
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The Allegan County News and Union Enterprise will in no case be responsible for typographical or other errors, but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which a typographical error occurs. The publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any material at any time. The right is reserved to reject, omit or edit any material offered for publication.

Obituaries

Frances Irene (Grimes) Rutherford, 92

June 22 1933- August 19 2025

Francis passed away peacefully on August 19 in her home where she lived with her daughter and care takers June husband Wayne and her sweet angels Maci, Mikalah, Elizabeth and Johanna.

Francis worked at Parker hannifin for 37 years and lived in many places around Michigan plainwell, otsego, allegan and Delton

She is survived by her children Kitty Towne , Gary Rutherford, Harry (carol) Rutherford, Maryann Winn, Karen (Darrel) , Penny (Mark) Griffen),

Frances Irene (Grimes) Rutherford

Dan (iris) Rutherford and June (Wayne) Lester Mike (Rhonda) Newcastle Diane Kuzma, Sue Busch and Steve Newcastle And many grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

Preceded in death by her husband Donald Rutherford, sons David and Larry Rutherford and grandson David Lee Towne jr and James Rutherford. And Allie Jo Lester.

Cremation has taken place and there will be a celebration of life at a later time.

Anyone that would like to send donations in lieu of flowers please send them to Compassus hospice 5136 lovers lane portage Michigan 49002.

Carol Elaine (Wiley) Pinkley, 72

Carol Elaine (Wiley) Pinkley passed away surrounded by family and holding the hand of her husband of 53 years on August 21, 2025, in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Carol was born to her late parents Ivan and Betty (Culumber) Wiley on November 19, 1952, in Decatur, Illinois. After graduating high school Carol would meet the love of her life Dale Pinkley Sr. and enjoy 53 years (and 2 days!) of marriage together. She was a member at First Baptist Church of Allegan for 50 years and past member of Riverside Baptist Church in Decatur. Carol volunteered with Kids Hope through FBC Allegan, impacting local youth consistently for over 20 years. She was also a 5th grade girls Sunday school teacher, parapro at Pine Trails elementary school, served on the mission board at FBC and led FBC's women's ministry for a couple of years. Carol loved quality time with friends and family from hosting pool parties, picnics, dinners and game nights. She was a phenomenal baker creating the most delicious chocolate muffins and treats for everyone to enjoy. Carol also treasured her time with their grandchildren investing lifelong love, compassion, and biblical truth every visit they shared. She also was an avid encourager in her relationships personally, at church and in the community with a heart of Christ.

She is survived by her

Carol Elaine (Wiley) Pinkley

husband Dale Pinkley Sr.; children Janine (Scott) Borling, and Dale Wayne Jr. (Sarah) Pinkley; siblings Ruth Ann (Doug) Atwater, Debbie Reynolds, David (Kat) Wiley, and Cheryl (Rusty) Sigmon; grandchildren Quinn, Nathaniel, and Madelyn Borling, Isaac, Naomi, and Kemloveson Pinkley.

She is preceded in death by her brother Richard Wiley and her parents, Ivan and Betty Wiley.

Carol's visitation will be Monday, August 25, from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel 528 Trowbridge Street, Allegan MI 49010. Her funeral service will be Tuesday, August 26 from 11:00am – 12:00pm with an hour visitation beforehand all at First Baptist Church Allegan 1290 32nd Street, Allegan MI 49010. Graveside to follow at Mallory Cemetery in Trowbridge Township.

Memorial donations may be made in Carol's name to First Baptist Church of Allegan towards the Kids Hope program.

Letters to the editor

Conflict of interest at state level - look at Hertels

Dear Editor,

The July 10 editorial about four state legislators married to lobbyists was revealing - and horrifying.

It's all true about the conflict of interest. Still, voters do have transparency options for lobbyists. It's not that difficult.

When a pharmaceutical lobbyist for top-tier drugs testifies about their extreme risk and asks for more barriers to competition, most us understand that their first priority is health and safety - not of patients, but of their bottom line.

Wander over to legislature.mi.gov/Committees/Meetings. Choose the House, and you can pick a topic such as Agriculture, Families & Veterans, or Health. These hearings are recorded. The "Minutes" tab and video archives record names of those who testify, the organization they represent, and the bill(s) they address. You can read what they submit under "Testimony."

Lansing gets even more entertaining if you choose to visit the senate committees. For instance, lawmakers direct nearly half ($38 Billion) of Michigan's 2025 budget to the Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Director Elizabeth Hertel began at CMH in 2013 before it merged with MDHHS. Lawmakers approved her as Gov. Whitmer's pick for MDHHS director in 2021.

She now answers to her brother-in-law, Senator Kevin Hertel, in his position as Health Policy Committee Chair.

Before Kevin, his brother Curtis Hertel Jr. (Director Hertel's husband) served on the same committee from 2015–22. He went on to become Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's top lobbyist.

According to Wikipedia, "Less than a week after resigning from the Whitmer administration, where he had negotiated the state's $82 billion budget, Hertel took a role at the nonprofit Greater Flint Health Coalition, which was expected to benefit from the state budget in the form of a $1.5 million grant. Hertel denied that his involvement in the state budget included knowledge of the $1.5 million budget appropriation earmarked for the Greater Flint Health Coalition. According to The Detroit News, the arrangement 'puts a spotlight on the close, behind-the-scenes relationships between groups seeking assistance from state government and officials in positions to provide it.' "

To give you a better idea of this dynasty's scope, the current senator's father Curtis Hertel Sr. and his brothers also served as Michigan legislators, and one of them in Congress. It would require a book to cover all the bases, and of course the history is still being written.

It's your government. Keep an eye on it.

Abigail Nobel

State school aid deadlock must be solved asap

Dear Editor:

As we start the 2025-26 school year, I want to update you on a critical issue in Lansing that could impact Allegan County students, staff, and programs in the coming months.

State law mandates that lawmakers approve a K-12 school funding budget by July 1 each year so districts like ours can plan and operate with certainty. That deadline has passed, and no agreement has been reached. Without a budget, there's a risk of a state government shutdown on September 30, which could delay funding that schools depend on to operate. At the heart of the deadlock is a proposal to redirect dollars from the School Aid Fund – the fund voters were promised would be dedicated to K-12 education – to other priorities, including road repairs. Many believe this violates the original intent of the system voters approved in 1994 to provide fair, statewide funding for public schools.

If the Legislature does not pass a budget, districts will miss their first scheduled state aid payment on October 20, 2025. For all schools, that payment is a major part of the resources we rely on to:

- Compensate teachers and staff who work directly with students.
- Maintain class sizes and student support services.
- Maintain bus operations, fund academic programs, arts, athletics, and student activities.

We cannot operate indefinitely without these resources. The solution is simple: lawmakers should approve a K-12 budget that safeguards School Aid Fund dollars for their original purpose – educating Michigan's children. Please join me in urging our elected officials to reach a quick agreement and keep K-12 funding secure.

You can contact your state lawmakers at: https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Legislature/Legislators and explain why timely, protected school funding is important to you and your family.

Our students and families deserve a stable, fully funded school year. Together, we can guarantee their learning proceeds without interruption.

Sincerely,
William Brown
Superintendent
Allegan Area Educational Service Agency

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Allegan Conservation District Board of Director Election for the Fiscal Year 2025

Location: Allegan Conservation District Office, 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan, MI 49010
Date and Time: 4pm, October 20, 2025
Parties Running: Caleb Smith
Agenda Items: Board elections; staff, partner, and financial reports; pay bills; FY26 meeting calendar

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JOB OPENING
Prairieville Township Deputy Clerk

Skills needed:
Bookkeeping experience; accounts payable, computer proficiency, ability to multi-task, work well with others and be personable with the public.

This job is 14 hours per week – Tuesday and Thursday 9 - 5

Send, e-mail or fax a letter of interest and a resume with three professional references by September 2, 2025 to:
Clerk Rod Goebel
10115 S. Norris Road, Delton MI 49046
Fax: (269) 623-3467
E-mail: rgoebel@prairievilletwp-mi.gov

Abandoned Wells
Got one?

ALLEGAN MICHIGAN

The Allegan Wellhead Protection Program is looking for abandoned, unplugged wells.

Abandoned, unused, unplugged wells threaten groundwater resources and public health. Contaminants from the surface such as fertilizers, pesticides or other run off water, can easily move downward through the unsealed, abandoned well and enter the aquifer. These contaminants may end up in your drinking water well, your neighbors well or the local community drinking water wells.

The City of Allegan would like to identify any abandoned, unplugged wells in and around its wellhead protection zone and explore having them plugged. The zone extends east from the city of Allegan along the north side of M-222 east to 24th St.

If you are the owner of the abandoned, unplugged well and would like assistance in plugging the well. Please contact Allegan Water Utilities at 269-686-1117 or by emailing to Doug Sweeris at dsweeris@cityofallegan.org

CLYDE TOWNSHIP
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Clyde Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and regular meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clyde Township Hall, 1679 56th Street, Fennville, Michigan.

Please take further notice that the matters to be considered at the public hearing include the following:

Dale Shannon and Kim Kennedy have petitioned for a Special Land Use to construct an accessory building on a vacant lot at (5918) Wells Ave 0304-700-060-00.

Written documents may be submitted to the Zoning Administrator at 111 Grand Street, Allegan 49010, mtsallegan@frontier.com up to the date of the hearing and may also be submitted at the hearing.

Anyone interested in reviewing the application may examine a copy at Michigan Township Services 111 Grand Street Allegan MI 49010, call 1-800-626-5964, email mtsallegan@frontier.com during normal business hours.

Necessary and reasonable aids for disabled persons will made available with sufficient notice to the clerk.

Pam Onken
2310 Atkins
Fennville MI 49408

Tasha Smalley
Zoning Administrator
1-800-626-5964

S. Main Street resurfacing to start after Labor Day

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

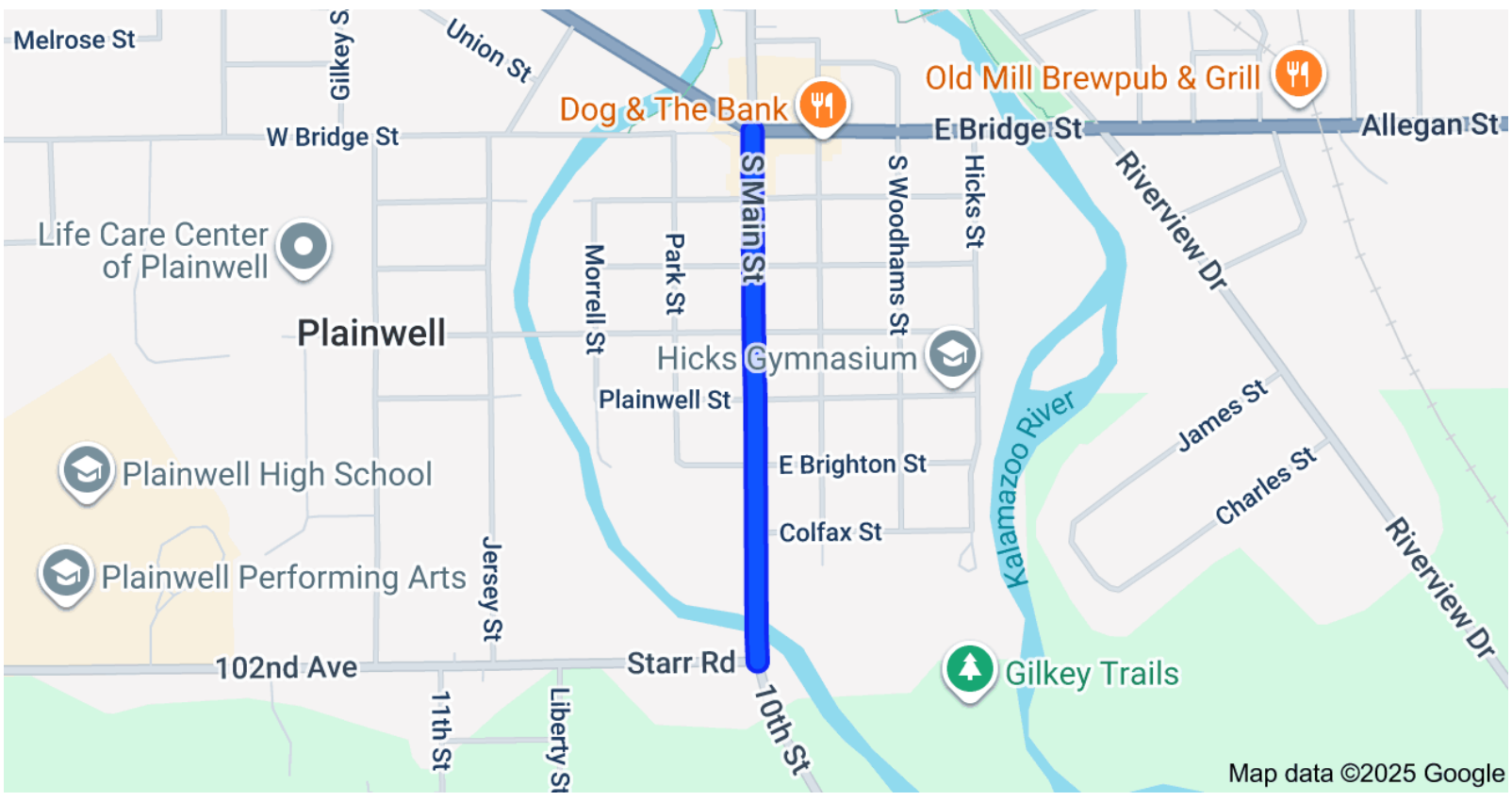
A resurfacing project in downtown Plainwell was originally scheduled to start on Aug. 21 and run through Sept. 12.

Officials with the City of Plainwell informed residents on Tuesday, Aug. 19, that the timetable for the project has been pushed back.

"The City of Plainwell has been notified by contractor Lakeland Asphalt that work on South Main Street between M-89 and Starr Road will now commence after Labor Day," city officials said in a release.

The project is now scheduled to start Tuesday, Sept. 2, and run through approximately Friday, Sept. 26.

The project scope presented to bidders allowed for the work to be done any time between May and October, as to provide "the largest possible window to perform the work helps lower the overall project cost by giving the contractor flexibility to sequence crews, equipment, and materials efficiently."



This map shows where the resurfacing project in Plainwell will take place, as South Main Street is being resurfaced from M-89 to Starr Road. (Photo provided)

The specific dates within that window are set by the contractor's schedule and operational considerations, according to city officials.

Traffic will remain open for the duration of the project, while access to homes and businesses will be maintained outside of immediate paving times.

Affected residents and businesses will be contacted directly regarding any temporary access disturbances.

"We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we improve roadway conditions on South Main Street," official said. "Please allow extra time when traveling through the area and follow posted signage."

Residents with questions regarding the project are asked to contact the City of Plainwell at (269) 685-6821.

Installation of fiber internet lines begins in Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Residents of Plainwell have likely noticed construction crews in front of homes in various parts of the city.

Those crews are busy installing fiber internet lines as part of a county-wide project aimed at expanding access to high-speed internet.

Crews from both Surfnet and 123.net will be installing the lines with the City's public right-of-ways, which often includes the grassy area of residents' yards near the street.

According to City officials, project details are as follows:

* Installation will involve underground boring and related construction activities.

* The State of Michigan's METRO Act program requires the City to provide access to right-of-ways for communication infrastructure.

* During this process, all utilities must be marked and flagged to protect existing infrastructure.

Residents are reminded not to remove utility flags that are placed in their yard.

"It is illegal to prematurely remove or tamper with flags or markings placed by utility companies or their contractors," officials said in a statement. "These markings are essential to protect underground infrastructure and ensure safe installation.

"Residents are encouraged to be cautious when mowing lawns, landscaping or performing outdoor work near flagged areas."

If residents believe a utility to their home is damaged during this work, they are asked to contact the Plainwell Department of Public Works at (269) 685-9363.

Once this project is completed, the majority of homes in Plainwell will have access to high-speed fiber internet.

Dawg eat dog in Otsego

With the high school football season set to open for area teams today (Thursday, Aug. 28), it was time for Otsego to host its annual Dawg Eat Dog event at Bulldog Stadium.

The event, which acts as a fundraiser as well as a team-building experience, features players collecting pledges based on how many hot dogs they can eat.

All told, dozens of hot dogs were consumed by the Bulldogs, including 12 by the winner himself.

The Otsego varsity football team opens its season on Aug. 28 with a trip to Battle Creek Pennfield. The Bulldogs are then home for two games, hosting Berrien Springs on Friday, Sept. 5, and Three Rivers on Friday, Sept. 12. (Photos provided)

Plainwell Schools welcomes students back

Plainwell Community School began its school year on Monday, Aug. 25, as students were welcomed back for a half day of classes. The first full day of school took place on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

Students have Friday, Aug. 29, and Monday, Sept. 1, off for Labor Day. (Photos provided)

B SECTION

The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise

SPORTS

First Place 2012 NNA Better Newspaper Contest — Award-winning Newspaper — Best Sports Column — National Newspaper Association

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Volleyball Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

FENNVILLE

Progress.

That's what Fennville coach Rebecca Hughes wanted from her team last season.

And her players responded, as the Blackhawks moved out of last place in the SAC Lakeshore Division and made it to the district finals for the first time in several years.

With five returning starters back to lead the way in the new campaign, Hughes hopes there is more progress in the offing this season.

Seniors Lily Achterhof (outside hitter) and Atiyah Chambers (middle blocker), juniors MacKenzie McIlwain (setter) and Ceeley Howard (opposite hitter) and sophomore Marynn Winne (middle blocker) comprise that returning group.

"We are entering the season with a strong foundation, thanks to the return of five key starters," Hughes said. "Their experience and leadership will be instrumental in our success.

"Our team continues to demonstrate versatility across positions, which greatly enhances adaptability and competitiveness. Our primary focus remains on consistent growth and striving to improve each day by treating every practice and match as an opportunity to learn and develop."

Freshman defensive specialist/libero Stella Michele is among the newcomers hoping to make an impact.

"We anticipate a solid offensive performance this season, supported by our returning players and overall team dynamics," Hughes said. "However, we are working to rebuild our defense following the graduation of several key contributors, most notably our standout libero.

"We are optimistic about our young defensive specialist, Stella Michele, who is showing promise and may transition into the libero role as she gains experience at the varsity level."

The Blackhawks, who finished with a 15-16-3 overall record last year, hope continue the trend of improving their winning percentage each season under Hughes' tutelage. They also want to continue to move up the SAC Lakeshore standings.

"The SAC Lakeshore Conference is highly competitive, and we recognize the strength of our opponents," Hughes said. "Last season marked a significant milestone for Fennville, as we moved out of last place for the first time in several years.

"Our ongoing goal is to remain focused on daily improvement, maintain a competitive edge and approach each match with determination and resilience."

HAMILTON

Attitude. Commitment. Effort.

Those are the three core values Hamilton has chosen to embody this season under first-year coach Courtney Cronkright.

"Each month, we will put a focus on each of those core values," Cronkright said. "This month (August), we are focused on commitment and each day at practice we have a coach or athlete find and quote and share it with the whole program."

By leaning into those core values, Cronkright believes the team give itself the best chance of reaching its full potential.

"A major strength for this group is how well they work as a team," Cronkright said. "From seniors to freshman, everyone feels respected, so it creates a super comfortable environment for all of them to be successful.

"These girls have been working hard at holding each other accountable, and I think that only adds to the cohesion on the court. I am a new coach to the program, so I am nervous for how they will respond to my coaching style, but so far they have embraced everything I'm teaching."

Several key players return from last year's team, including the senior quartet of libero Sophie Blauwkamp, right-side hitter Maddie Jipping, setter/defensive specialist Taylor Heer and middle hitter Izzy Friedriechsen. Junior outside hitters/defensive specialists Allie VanOmmen and Brooklin Cooper are also back, as is junior setter/defensive specialist Brooke Petroelje.

"We are going to strive to be a strong serving team this season," Cronkright said. "This group is buying into the toughness of practice and are working on adapting their tempo to become faster."

Newcomers include juniors Taryn Schurman (setter, right-side hitter), Isabel Miller (defensive specialist), Madi Balder (outside hitter, defensive specialist), Zoe Rozendaal (middle hitter) and Elyssa Johnson (right-side hitter, defensive specialist) along with freshman middle hitter Kenzie Glupker.

It's a team Cronkright believes can compete for a top spot in the league standings.

"I believe Holland Christian, Zeeland East, and Unity will be the teams we have to look out for in the conference," she said. "They are all very solid and have great all the way around rosters.

"Our goal is to finish top two in the conference and I think that is achievable if we continue to build on the things we are already working on."

HOPKINS

Having a seasoned setter is a luxury for any volleyball coach.

That's exactly the luxury Amy Funk has as she starts her first season as head coach for the Vikings.

Senior Kylee Sykes returns for her fourth year at the varsity level. Given her experience, she will be relied on to run the offense for the Vikings.

Sykes is one of six returning players for Hopkins, with five of those returners seniors.

Those other seniors are middle hitter/outside hitter Cora Hall, middle hitter/outside hitter Kelsey Burgess, outside hitter Ellarie Baugh and libero/setter Kavy Martinez. Junior outside hitter Leah Williams is also back.

"Our whole team is solid, as all 13 can hit," Funk said.

Newcomers include first-year senior outside hitter Reid Groenhout.

"We are pretty solid on offense," Funk said. "Our goals are to win the conference and we have hopes to win another tournament or two after winning the Lawton Invitational to start the season."

MARTIN

Gritty.

That's the word first-year Martin volleyball coach Shannon Goddard would use to describe her team this season.

"Our biggest strength as a team is that these girls have grit," said Goddard, who has coached at the sub-varsity level in the program for several years. "They also play hard for each other."

Goddard, who takes over for Logan Malling, hopes those attributes lead to an successful season for the Clippers, who placed second in the divisional standings and won a district championship last season.

"We're looking to contend for a conference championship this year," she said. "We've been towards the top for the last five years, and that's our goal again this year.

Delton is the returning champion, so we expect them to be tough again and Galesburg is always a tough team."

Five players return from last year's team, led by the senior duo of setter Torryn Harris and libero Kendra Goddard.

"We look to Torryn to set the pace of play this year," Coach Goddard said. "She leads by example and gives 100 percent effort all the time.

"Kendra is a top server on our team and looks to be a key role player defensively for us."

Senior defensive specialist Jade Hooper is also back, as are junior middle/pin hitter Anna Jager and junior pin hitter Maggie Jager.

Senior middle/pin hitter Marybeth Ritchie also returns to the sport after taking a year off and is expected to contribute in a big way.

"We're looking for Marybeth to make a huge impact both offensively and defensively," Shannon Goddard said.

Juniors Mackenzie Schwartz (middle/pin hitter) and Sara Schipper (defensive specialist) join sophomore Millie Schwartz (pin/defensive specialist) and freshman Kylie Myers (pin hitter) as the other newcomers.

"We have high expectations of competing with everyone we play this season," Shannon Goddard said. "We're looking to run a faster offense than previous years. And we're looking to contend for the conference championship and for a district championship."

OTSEGO

When Otsego coach Danielle Littel looks at her roster this season, the junior class immediately jumps out to her.

"I have high expectations for the team as a whole, and that centers around our junior class," said Littel, who returns for her second stint as head coach of the Bulldogs. "This crew of six boasts a gusty libero, a seasoned setter and four dynamic attackers."

Peyton Johnson is the libero, Maddy Littel is the setter and the attackers are Brooke Smalldon, Olivia Klimp, Mya Engbers and Stella Houseman.

"They are the core of the team," Coach Littel said.

In addition to the juniors, the senior duo of middle blocker/opposite hitter Lucy Mercer and defensive specialist Sydneigh Mosher also returns.

"We look for Lucy to come on strong this season," Coach Littel said.

Four sophomores—defensive special Kate Littel, defensive specialist/libero Kit Titus, setter/opposite hitter Emerson Jager and middle blocker Kylee Uramkin—round out the team as newcomers.

"All of these players really work well together and are hungry to win," Coach Littel said. "Each practice, they impress me with their desire to learn and grow in the game. I think we have to really hone in on serve receive if we want to be able to compete with high-level programs."

The Wolverine Conference, Coach Littel believes, as its share of those high-level programs.

"I think the Wolverine Conference will be incredibly strong this year," she said. "Looking at Edwardsburg, Three Rivers, Plainwell and Vicksburg, we are showcasing some top talent in the area.

"We have our work cut out for us to compete with these programs, but I have quite a bit of faith in my girls."

■ see **Volleyball**, Page B2

Torryn Harris is back at setter for Martin and first-year coach Shannon Goddard. (File photo)

Girls Swim & Dive Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLEGAN

Some people see the glass as half empty. Others see it as half full.

Allegan coach Carol Gephart definitely falls in the second of those categories.

Because despite the fact that graduation decimated the Tigers' roster and the team only has eight athletes this season, Gephart is able see the positive in the situation.

"Our small program enables each of our athletes to receive consistent feedback all season in improving stroke and technique and to gain much individual attention so they can improve their individual events," she said. "This has always been one of the reasons for our success, despite our small numbers.

"I am looking forward to overseeing the same, if not more, amount of technique work on each athlete. As I've told them recently, they can't get away with any stroke flaws now."

Five of the team members were part of last year's squad that won a second straight conference title. The championship was the third in four years for the Tigers.

With the small roster, Gephart knows winning another league crown this year simply isn't in the cards.

"Obviously, we won't be conference contenders since we won't be able to fill out events after the loss of eight seniors," she said. "We are likely the smallest team in the SCC Conference this year.

"But we are looking forward to focusing on individual goals and setting the groundwork for rebuilding the program."

A pair of returning seniors lead the way for Allegan. Eliza DeLaet will compete in sprint freestyle and butterfly, while Odessa Barnhart will compete in distance freestyle and IM.

Juniors Grace Kelley (fly, freestyle) and Zoey Hammer (backstroke, freestyle) are also back, as is sophomore diver Annabel Roden.

Freshman Ells Penrod joins the team.

"This year's team is positive and enthusiastic, and we have excellent leadership," Gephart said. "I expect we'll have a very fun and successful season."

HAMILTON

After serving as an assistant coach at Hamilton the past five years, Elizabeth VandeWege is stepping into the role of head coach for the Hawkeyes.

VandeWege, who takes over for Matt Oonk following his four-year tenure at his alma mater, inherits a team that posted another top-10 finish at the Division 3 State Finals last year.

The Hawkeyes placed eighth at the Finals … after finishing fifth in their always-challenging conference.

"We have one of the best conferences in the state," VandeWege said. "Five of our conference teams finished in the top 10 last year at the Division 3 state meet.

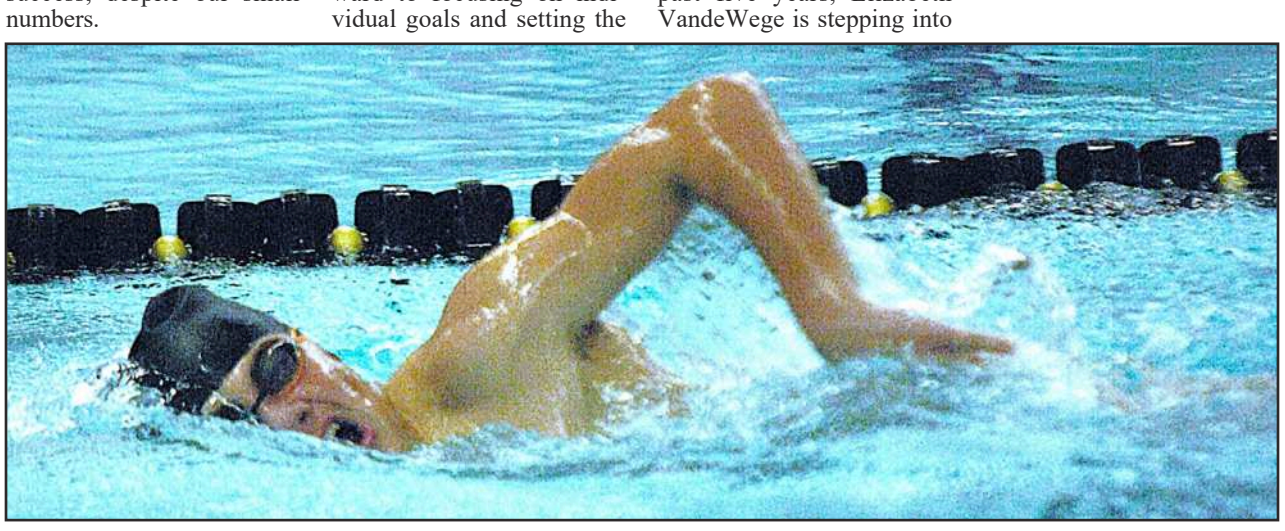
"I'm expecting some close meets this year in our conference and look forward to seeing what our girls can do come Conference Finals time."

The return of some talented swimmers and divers should help that cause.

Among the returning athletes are the senior tandem of diver Joselyn Paskvan and Adi Garvelink (200 IM, 100 breaststroke).

Also back are juniors Alyssa Volkers (200 free, 500 free), Keira Volkers (50 free, 100 free), Josi Popma (diving) and Maya Miller (diving).

■ see **Swim & Dive**, Page B3



Eliza DeLaet is one of two returning seniors for Allegan, which will have a small team this year. (File photo)

Otsego golf edges Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PAW PAW—The Wolverine Conference portion of the girls golf season began for Otsego and Plainwell on Monday, Aug. 25, as Paw Paw hosted the first league jamboree at Lake Cora Golf Course.

And it was the Bulldogs who prevailed, checking in with a score of 187 to edge past the Trojans by seven strokes.

Niles was a distant third at 211.

Annika Quakenbush carded a one-over-par 37 to earn medalist honors for Otsego. Plainwell's Ayla Jaeger was second at 39, while Bulldog Avery Selent was third at 46.

"This should be an exciting season between us and Plainwell," Otsego coach Michael Miller said.

Hamilton swimmers post state-cut times

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—The season got underway for the Hamilton girls swim & dive team at the OK Lakeshore Early Season Duals on Friday, Aug. 22.

And the Hawkeyes came away with a record of 3-3.

Hamilton picked up wins over Holland (141-41), Mona Shores (129-57) and Spring Lake (111-72), while falling to Grand Rapids Christian (110-76), Holland Christian (110-74) and Unity Christian (119-67).

Top performances for Hamilton came in the 200-yard medley relay and the 200 freestyle relay, with the Hawkeyes turning in state-cut times in each.

The 200 free team of Keira Volkers, Nora VandenBerg, Adi Garvelink and Alyssa Volkers placed second at 1:46.88, while the 200 medley team of Garvelink, Billie Lucas, Alyssa Volkers and Keira Volkers finished third at 1:58.44.

Alyssa Volkers also earned state-cut times in both the 200 free (2:00.13) and the 500 free (5:27.68).

Allegan tennis wins home tournament

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Hosting the Tiger Duals on Saturday, Aug. 23, the Allegan boys tennis team won four flight championships to secure top honors.

The Tigers, ranked eighth in Division 4, finished with 16 points, followed by Notre Dame Prep (No. 9 in D4) with 13, Coopersville with 12 and Portland with seven.

No. 2 singles Ezra Smith, No. 3 Carson Woodhams, No. 2 doubles Wesley Goodspeed/Oliver Burnett and No. 3 doubles Gabe Taylor/Charlie Morris all went 3-0 to secure flight titles. That included a pair of three-set wins by Woodhams, who bested Coopersville 6-2, 2-6, 10-2 and Notre Dame Prep 6-3, 6-7(3), 10-4.

The No. 4 doubles team of Sully Morgan/Noah Willett finished runner-up at 2-1, while Deacon Morgan, filling in at No. 1 singles, picked up a win over Portland.

"We had a great day," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said.

Allegan also hosted back-to-back duals on Wednesday, Aug. 20, and Thursday, Aug. 21.

In the Aug. 21 event, the Tigers beat Lansing Catholic 5-3 and fell to Berrien Springs (No. 3 in D4) 5-3 and lost to Glen Lake (No. 4 in D4) 7-1.

On Aug. 20, Allegan beat Williamston 5-3, tied Traverse City St. Francis 4-4 and fell to Jackson Lumen Christi (No. 2 in D4) 5-3.

Volleyball ■ *from Page B1*

PLAINWELL

Last season, Plainwell finished on a high note by beating archrival Otsego in a Division 2 district championship before seeing its season end in the regional tournament.

Winning another district championship this season will bring with it a new set of challenges, as the Trojans are moving to Division 1 for the first time in school history.

"Last year was a rollercoaster for our team," second-year Plainwell coach Megan Black said. "We had to deal with some outside factors that affected our record, but that didn't stop us from finishing the season on a positive note as we won the district against Otsego, in a tough Otsego atmosphere.

"Now, we're moving up to Division 1 for the postseason, so we are hoping to make our mark in the new district. Our goal as a team is to play together, be resilient and outwork our opponent in every match."

A group of four seniors and three juniors return from last year's district-championship team.

The seniors are Autumn Gravelyn (setter), Lillie Cross (opposite hitter/outside hitter), Sam McDaniel (opposite hitter/outside hitter) and Lauren Marlett (setter/defensive specialist).

Anna Overway (outside hitter), Avery Thorp (middle hitter) and Jordyn Erdody (libero) make up the junior contingent.

"We have a lot of experience and volleyball knowledge with our seven returners," Black said. "Our team has some big shoes to fill with the loss of our two seniors last year, but we have a deep roster of 13 this year. We're confident that we have all the tools to succeed."

The roster is rounded out by junior newcomers Kaylee VanAtter (outside hitter/opposite hitter), Tessie Kiel (middle hitter/opposite hitter), Brooke Lyons (setter/defensive specialist), Isabelle Stewart (opposite hitter/outside hitter), Ashlyn Wolf (middle hitter) and Olivia Huberty (defensive specialist).

"We're going to be a competitive threat in the Wolverine Conference," Black said. "The Wolverine will be tough from start to finish again, but our team knows what we are capable of and we're hoping to finish towards the top (of the league standing).

"This team has a lot of potential and I'm excited to see what they will accomplish."

SAUGATUCK

As she enters her first year as head coach at the varsity level for Saugatuck, Christina Lewis likes the mix of players on her team.

"This season is shaping up to be an exciting one," said Lewis, who has coached at the sub-varsity level at Saugatuck for 23 years, including 15 at the JV level. "Our team is anchored by seven returning seniors and energized by three very talented freshmen.

"The seniors have fully embraced the younger players, and the group has bonded quickly. Our team chant ends with 'family,' and they have already become just that."

The seniors mentioned by Lewis include Julia Lowery, Penny Grob, Natalia Laskowski, Ellery Panapento, Chloe Collins, Ashtyn O'Neil and Audrey Rodewald.

The freshmen group is made up of libero Gabbie Cochran, setter Emma Gosler and outside hitter Jocelyn Johnson.

"This is a very coachable group," Lewis said. "(They're) eager to learn, grow and compete. With their talent, work ethic and team-first mentality, the outlook for the season is extremely bright.

"The girls bring great energy and have really leaned into my philosophy of 'Together' over the past few weeks. It's shaping up to be an exciting season for us."

Lewis is particularly excited to see the work being done at setter by Laskowski and Gosler.

"We're fortunate to have two strong setters, who I consider the quarterbacks of the court," Lewis said. "Natalia is leading the way, while Emma is learning the role quickly and making great strides. Both bring excellent court awareness and the ability to create plays that elevate the entire team.

"They will be a dynamic duo for us this year."

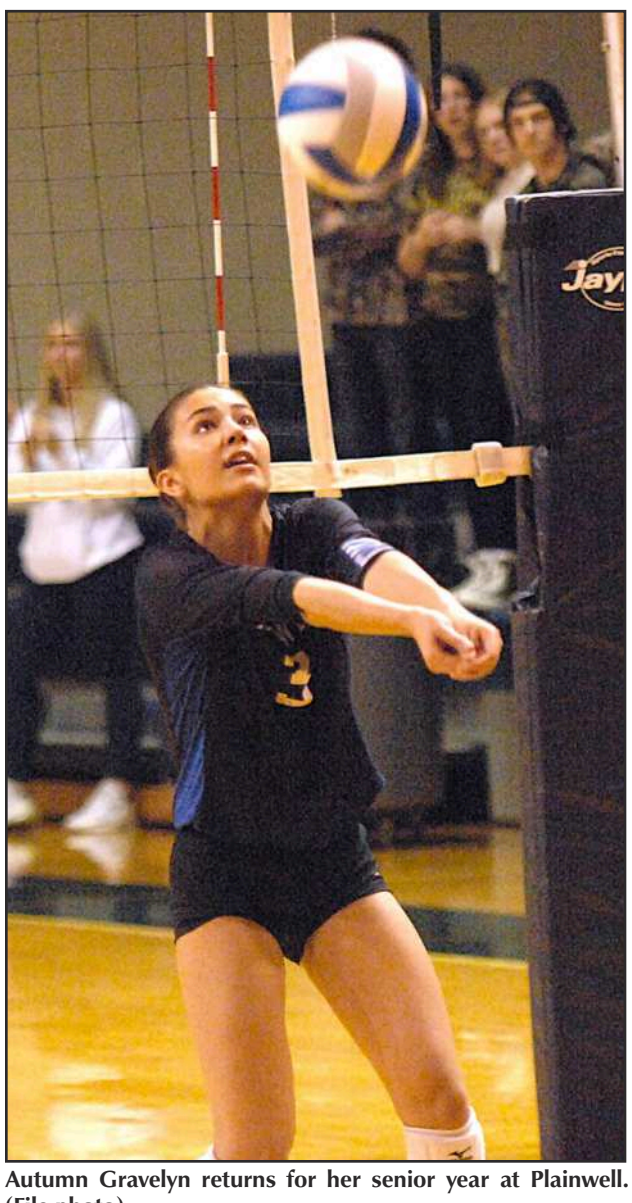
The word "dynamic" could also be used to describe Cochran's potential at libero.

"Gabbie is relentless on defense," Lewis said. "She seems to be everywhere at once and makes it look effortless. Her energy and consistency will be a huge asset for the Trailblazers this season."

Lewis, who is returning to coaching after taking a few years off to watch her son kick for the Saugatuck football team, said she's not sure of what teams will be the biggest threats in conference play.

"Having been out of it for a few years, I'm honestly not sure," she said. "I will say, however, that I was very impressed with our growth already this season. Don't sleep on the Trailblazers this year."

NOTE: *No preview information was received from Allegan or Wayland prior to deadline.*



Autumn Gravelyn returns for her senior year at Plainwell. (File photo)

Girls Golf Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLEGAN

Small but mighty.

If second-year Allegan coach Ken Bronkema had to describe his team in three words or less, that just might be it.

Because while he is starting the season with only three players on the roster, Bronkema believes all three members of that trio are capable of putting together strong performances this season.

"Our expectation is for each player on the team to finish in the top 10 of the conference," Bronkema said.

Junior captain Kaylee Haas leads the charge for the Tigers. This will be her third year on the team.

A pair of first-year sophomores—Emma Hileski and Evelyn Hofmeister—join Haas as part of the three-member squad.

And while three players is definitely a small team, the number represents three times more players than Bronkema had on the roster last year, when Haas was the lone player.

Haas placed 13th in the SAC, which was good for honorable mention All-Conference honors.

"We are working on building our roster and team numbers up," Bronkema said.

So far, he likes what he has seen from his trio.

"I feel our main strength is our determination towards learning the game and getting better with each practice and round of golf," he said. "Each of these girls have a positive attitude, and that goes a long way in the learning process.

"I'm very excited for the upcoming season and what our golfers will accomplish."

Bronkema is also excited for other girls in the school to notice what Haas, Hileski and Hofmeister are doing and consider joining them.

"We're hoping that others will see how much fun these athletes have playing golf and how it effects their everyday life and want to come play in the future seasons," he said.

HAMILTON

When it comes to golf—and any sport, for that matter—physical skills are obviously important when it comes to determining the level of success a player and team ultimately enjoy.

But Hamilton coach Brooke Statema knows the metal part of the game is equally—if not more—important.

"This year, our goal is to learn to manage golf courses and manage our mental game," Statema said. "Skill and technique have been a focus leading up to competition, but throughout the season, we will learn what it takes to stay in control and make smart scoring decisions."

As she enters her fourth season at the helm of the Hamilton program, Statema has a roster that includes three returning letter winners and five newcomers.

Junior Caroline Behnke joins seniors Evie Boeve and Jadyn Fynewever as the returning golfers.

First-year senior Sierra Hutchmaker, juniors Rylee Zwagerman and Bella DeRoo, sophomore Ashtyn Becksford and freshman Aliyah Pitsch are the newcomers.

It's a group Statema believes has plenty of potential.

"Our greatest strength as a team is positivity and encouragement," Statema said. "This team works well together without an ounce of negativity or jealousy.

"The area of concern for this year is only having a varsity team with many new faces."

After finishing fifth in conference play and 10th at regionals a year ago, Statema and her players hope to move up in the standings this year.

"Our goal is to fall somewhere in the middle of the league standings," Statema said. "We have some strong teams in our conference, as Unity Christian, Holland Christian and Spring Lake will be fighting for first, second and third. We'd love to be that fourth spot, but to start, we're going to aim for playing our best and learning.

"We're also hoping for a higher placing at regionals this fall."

In her four-year tenure with the Hawkeyes, Statema has taken two players to the state finals. She'd love to add to that number this season.

"We continue to have a great group of girls on the team who are ready to work and improve in their abilities," she said. "I'm excited to see what the season holds for us."

HOPKINS

Talk about being quick learners.

In only the fourth season of existence at Hopkins, the Vikings placed second in the OK Silver and received Academic All-State accolades.

Russell VanDommelen, who started the girls program after coaching the JV boys team at Hopkins for more than a decade, is excited to see what the team can do this year.

"Our primary goal is to improve our fundamental skills and our strategic approach to the game each and every day," he said. "We want to compete and have fun."

The return of five players from last year's team should help that cause.

The junior quartet of Morgan Brinks, Lily Dehring, Rorey Houser and Kennedy Parson join sophomore Annika Ford as the returning players.

And while this group has competed at the high school level previously, they'll be asked to fill bigger roles this year following the graduation of some talented team members.

"The fact that we have several returning players is nice, obviously," VanDommelen said. "But this will be the first time these girls are playing in the top spots of our lineup, so there will be an adjustment period for that."

Two first-year seniors—Olivia Brenner and Allison Poll—will help provide depth for the Vikings.

VanDommelen hopes it's a group that will once again finish near the top of the conference standings … although he knows doing so will be no easy task.

"After our program's best finish of second place in the conference last season, we will be in a little bit of a rebuilding year this year," he said. "But all of our returning players have at least two seasons remaining, so we will be working hard to earn our way back toward the top of the conference."

OTSEGO

The 2024 season was one to remember for Otsego.

Under the tutelage of first-year coach Michael Miller, the Bulldogs not only won the Wolverine Conference title, but also claimed the first regional championship in program history to earn a place in the Division 2 State Finals. Otsego placed ninth at the Finals.

With four players who competed at the Finals back this season, Miller is optimistic about his team putting together another strong showing this season.

"The girls have worked really hard since the State Finals last year to improve and we definitely did that," he said.

Evidence of that improvement? Otsego opened the season by shooting a school-record 357 for 18 holes when the Bulldogs hosted the Shamrock Invitational. Last year, Otsego shot a 382 at the same event.

"We're playing good golf, but we feel like the girls aren't playing their best golf yet," Miller said. "It should be an excited season with the big goals our players have set."

Back with experience competing in the State Finals are senior Avery Selent, junior Annika Quakenbush, junior Malania Miller and sophomore Ali Holmes.

Selent and Quakenbush both earned All-Conference honors last year.

"The experience of those four girls and the work during the summer on their game should be an area of strength for us," Michael Miller said. "They are all excellent players that we expect big from this year, especially Avery and Annika. They are both number-one players."

Junior Madden Fitzpatrick joins sophomores Addy Maisel and Channing Dobbs as the team's other returning players. Freshman Mila Garrett and junior Sara McCaw are new to the team.

"We are looking to defend our Wolverine Conference championship and first regional championship last year along with earning a berth back to the state finals," Michael Miller said.

When it comes to the Wolverine Conference, Miller sees archrival Plainwell as the biggest threat to the top spot in the standings.

"I would look for Plainwell and us to be the top contenders for the Wolverine Conference," he said. "(The Trojans) have the Player of the Year (in the league) from last year and a great supporting cast, plus a great coach. We are looking forward to battling them all season."

PLAINWELL

Having options is a good thing.

And Plainwell coach Chris Jaeger will have plenty of options when it comes to filling out his roster come the postseason.

There are 18 players on the roster, including 11 who were with the program last season.

"Throughout the season, we will be rotating players to determine our postseason players," said Jaeger said, who enters his first season as head coach in Plainwell after serving as an assistant previously. "We do feel we have a good chance to do well in the Wolverine Conference.

"Ultimately, we would like to do well enough to return to the State Finals again this year as a team."

Junior Alya Jaeger is expected to once again anchor the Plainwell lineup.

Last year, Alya Jaeger earned Player of the Year honors in the Wolverine Conference before placing ninth at the Division 2 State Finals to garner All-State recognition.

As a team, the Trojans placed 13th at the Finals.

Other returning players include fellow seniors Emma Taylor and Harper Johnson, junior Sophia Beck and sophomore Emma Rayman.

"One of our team's strengths is our experience," Chris Jaeger said. "Managing the mental part of the game is also big for us. Bad shots will happen. That's not a flaw in their game, but a part of the game. Golf is hard. That's why it's rewarding."

Newcomers hoping to make an impact include the junior duo of Sam LaBonte and Avery Powell long with freshmen Katherine Jepsen, Addy Lyke, Lillian Youngs and Raygan Truitt.

Chris Jaeger believes the race for the top spot in the Wolverine Conference will be a tough one, with Otsego one of the top contenders along with the Trojans.

"I'm excited to see all the young talent coming in this year," he said. "We should have a good, solid group for the next few years."

Note*: No preview information was received from Wayland prior to deadline.*

Swim & Dive ■ from Page B1

VandeWege is looking forward to seeing the diving trio of Paskvan, Popma and Miller in action.

"Our divers have made a huge impact on our team the past few years with how hard they work to put a dive into the water clean," VandeWege said.

Newcomers include junior Paige Kleinheksel (50 free, 100 free) along with freshmen Marisa Patmos (200 free, 100 back), Nora VandenBerg (50 free, 100 free) and Billie Lucas (200 IM, 100 fly, 100 breaststroke).

"I see a lot of potential in my girls and I know that with the right training and work ethic these girls will be able to put up some fast times and scores," VandeWege said. "A goal for the season is to always work on the little things and to swim smart so that when it comes to races, we can go out and have fun.

"My hope for the girls is for them to see some big time drops for their final meet of the season."

VandeWege believes the Hawkeyes have what it takes for another top-10 showing at the State Finals, thanks largely to the leadership of the returning athletes coupled with the talent of the newcomers.

"I have some great upperclassmen leadership and work ethic and can't wait to see that rub off onto our underclassmen," she said. "My upperclassmen will do their job for the team and win us events, but it's really going to come down to the depth of my team to help us win meets.

"I'm just really looking forward to continuing the pride and legacy of Hamilton swimming and diving."

OTSEGO

When asked about his thoughts on the upcoming season, longtime Otsego coach Darryl Belton had a six-word response.

"This is going to be interesting," he said.

That's because the Bulldogs have just 14 girls on the roster, with half of those new to competing at the high school level.

Despite the small and largely inexperienced makeup of the team, Belton is excited about the squad's potential.

"We have a great group of returning swimmers and divers and our newbies are working super hard and after the first two weeks now graduated from the learn-to-swim portion of the season," Belton said. "We are small in numbers, but I believe we are pretty darn good."

As one might expect, Belton will rely on his returning athletes to lead the way.

That group includes the captain quartet of seniors Hope Stender (freestyle), Laney Sweet (fly) and Alyssa Long (freestyle) along with junior Bella Xenos (all strokes).

Aubrey Smith (all strokes) also returns, along with the diving duo of Millie Shattuck and Alie Bronson.

"The returning swimmers and divers are going to have to shoulder a pretty heavy load early this year," Belton said. "But I think this team will be a handful come mid-October."

Newcomers include Lydia Griffith, Halle Olweean, Kris Slater and Kylee Worden.

"This is a tough group and it's going to be a lot of fun watching them grow as the year goes by," Belton said.

PLAINWELL

Having a roster of 14 athletes is a relatively small team for high school swimming & diving.

But for Plainwell coach Andrea Murphy, having 14 athletes seems like a luxury.

That's because the Trojans had just eight athletes on the roster a year ago, as Plainwell finished seventh out of eight teams in the Southwest and Central Swim Conference.

"I'm pretty excited for this year's team," Murphy said. "We actually have 14 participants instead of last year's eight, so that's good news."

Six of the team members are back after competing a year ago.

That group consists of senior McKenna Mitzel (IM, breaststroke, fly); juniors Ellah Anderson (IM, breaststroke), Audra Huberty (diving, backstroke) and Abby Unser (breaststroke, backstroke); and sophomores Annabelle Castaneda (200 free, IM) and Adalyn Miller (200/500 free, fly).

The remaining eight team members are freshmen: Peyton Damink (freestyle), Brecken DeHaan (IM, breaststroke), Abbie Hansen (diving), Sylar Luckett (sprint freestyle), Ella McMeeken (freestyle), McKayla Oele (diving), Emily Skinner (freestyle) and Sophia VanHeest (200/500 freestyle, backstroke).

"We are a very young team, composed of mostly freshmen," Murphy said. "So we have a lot of learning to do and training ahead of us. But I think we should be pretty competitive with the rest of our league, which will be nice."

Speaking of the league, believes VanHeest, DeHaan, Luckett and Skinner are among the Trojans who could vie for high finishes at the conference meet.

WAYLAND

Longtime Wayland coach Seth Beat has high hopes for the upcoming season.

"My goal for this season is for our team to finish at .500 or better (in dual meets), break school records and qualify for the state meet in all relays and as many individual events as possible," he said.

Beat's level of excitement stems from the fact that the Wildcats are welcoming back several athletes who had strong showings in 2024 and adding several talented newcomers to the mix.

"We have many returning athletes who were top performers last season, earning top eight at the conference meet and/or were state qualifiers," Beat said. "We are also very fortunate to have many new freshmen join us this year who are showing talent in many areas."

That group of freshmen includes Jocelyn Dzierzyc, Jasmin Garcia, Peyton Mathis, Abbigail Quintino, Rosemarie Stack and Sawyer Whisenant.

Senior Laney Wolf, who has several state championships to her credit, leads the list of returning athletes. Other seniors on the team include Maizie Bollone, Kendra Moore, Alyna Rookus, Raeanna Stallard and Sybil Williamson.

Laney Wolf has claimed multiple state titles for Wayland. (File photo)

Juniors Briseida Bernal Pumay, Stella VanWyk and Kaeli Whip are also on the roster, along with sophomores Adah Kasprowicz, Ariana Longstreet, Aubrey Messer, Zoey Shafer and Molly Stack.

"We are strong in the sense that we have many returning state qualifiers from last season," Beat said. "Our diving program is also growing.

"We hope to have many All-Conference athletes and finish in the middle to the top of the conference this year."

Hamilton volleyball faces tough challenge

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS—The Hamilton volleyball team faced an early-season challenge at the Forest Hills Northern Quad on Monday, Aug. 25.

In addition to playing the third-ranked team in Division 1 in FHN, the Hawkeyes also took on the sixth-ranked team in D1 (Hudsonville) and another D1 team that won a district title last year (Plainwell).

The result was a 1-2 record, as Hamilton closed the evening with a 25-13, 25-21 win over Plainwell following loss to FHN (25-15, 25-18) and Hudsonville (25-10, 25-11).

"It was a very tough night of competition," first-year Hamilton coach Courtney Cronkright said. "Overall the girls played some really great volleyball and got better as the night progressed."

In the win over Plainwell, Kenzie Glupker led Hamilton with seven kills and three aces. Ally VanOmmen added six kills, while Sophie Blauwkamp had 14 digs.

Taryn Schurman and Brooke Petroelje combined for 19 assists, as Schurman led the way with 11.

Glupker also had four kills against Hudsonville, while Blauwkamp had 11 total digs in the other two matches.

Hamilton opened the season on Wednesday, Aug. 20, in the East Kentwood Invitational. The Hawkeyes beat East Kentwood (25-15, 25-12) and Coopersville (25-14, 25-21) and fell to Portage Central (25-22, 15-25, 15-11).

Glupker racked up 18 total kills and served up nine aces against EK, while Petroelje had 24 total assists. Blauwkamp led the way with digs against Coopersville (seven) and PC (10), with VanOmmen going for nine against EK.

Allegan soccer ties with Black River

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The bad news for the Allegan soccer team was that the Tigers didn't win their home opener against Black River on Monday, Aug. 25.

The good news was that they didn't lose it, either.

Rather, Allegan settled for a 2-2 tie after Black River scored the equalizer with about a minute remaining to play.

"It was a tough home opener to be ahead 2-1 and then letting a goal in that late goal, but I keep seeing growth and good things from all these players," first-year Allegan coach Andy Bishop said.

Colby Bishop accounted for both Allegan goals, with one coming in each half. As a team, the Tigers had nearly 20 shots on goal.

Ryan Sparks was in goal for Allegan and had five saves.

"Positives for us included Noah Greig doing what he does, defending and keeping the ball out of our end, while Jacob Clearwater banged around in the midfield get the ball up to a well passing and driving in the zone," Andy Bishop said. "Sawyer Wedge also had a lot of passes with LJ Dial and Colby Bishop."

The tie moved Allegan's record to 1-1-1 following a 2-1 loss to Covenant Christian on Thursday, Aug. 21, and a 3-1 win over Watervliet to open the season on Wednesday, Aug. 20.

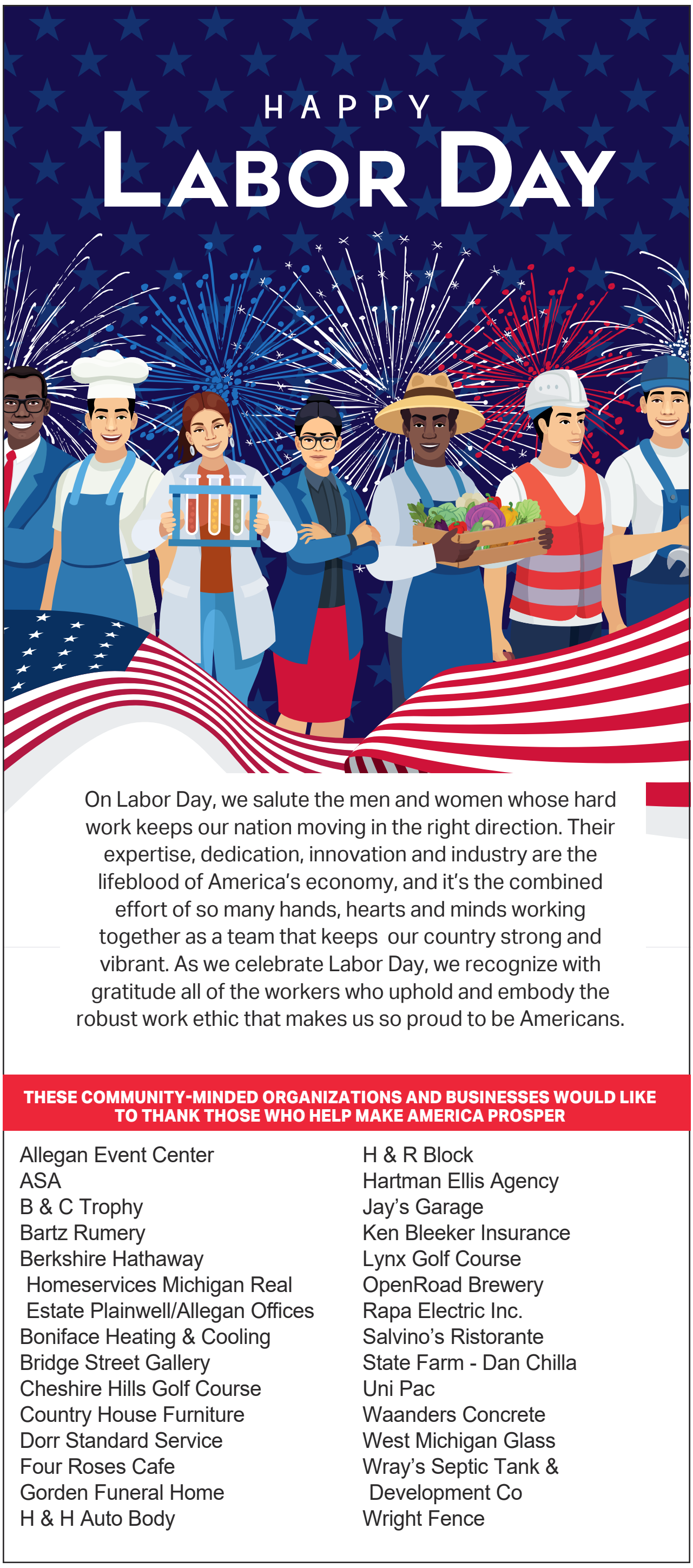
In the Covenant Christian game, the Tigers allowed a pair of quick goals to fall behind 2-0. Dial scored midway through the opening half to cut the deficit to 2-1, but that was the end of the scoring.

"Sawyer Wedge, Colby Bishop and Jacob Clearwater had a lot of good passing in the middle and got the ball up to Dohnoven Allen a few times," Andy Bishop said. "But they just couldn't get it past a well-playing Covenant goalkeeper who had some great saves."

Leland McKellips led the way against Watervliet, accounting for all three Allegan goals.

Sparks and Treyden Terpstra shared time in goal, each making one save.

"For the first game of the season, with some new players and starters this year not to mention a new coach, we looked good," Andy Bishop said. "We still have a lot of work to do, but it is early in the season."



Plainwell orthodontist faces child exploitation charges

A West Michigan orthodontist is facing a slew of federal charges related to child exploitation, a U.S. Attorney announced Wednesday. It's not the first time for Thomas Shannon.

Shannon, 43, of Byron Township, was arrested in Frankfort, Michigan, for charges of attempted receipt of child pornography, receipt of child pornography, possession of child pornography, attempted sexual exploitation of a minor and sexual exploitation of a minor.

Shannon is also facing 2023 charges from state officials. He's accused of two counts of possessing child sexually abusive material and two counts of using computers to commit a crime. He posted his $20,000 bond in March 2023.

That case is going to trial in Kent County in November.

Shannon ran Shannon Orthodontics, which had locations in both Grandville and Plainwell. The practices shut down in 2023 following his initial arrest.

The Kent County Sheriff's Office first interviewed Shannon at his orthodontics practice in 2023, asking him if he remembered messaging a minor through the app Snapchat in 2021. Detectives said Shannon replied, "Possibly, yes."

The detective went on to ask if Shannon had asked for photos or images of the girl in exchange for money. Shannon ended the interview after saying, "If it happened, obviously it is all there and I have to fess up to it."

Shannon then hired a computer forensics investigator to take a look at his iPhone and iCloud accounts to show there was no child pornography, court document say.

Instead, the investigator reported discovering a "large amount" of child pornography.

Detectives said they found records dating back to 2019 showing Shannon had been communicating and soliciting known minors online for sexually explicit photos and videos, and on a few occasions, attempting to meet up with those children to have sex.

The investigation into Shannon began in January 2021 when a North Carolina therapist reported to police that a 16-year-old patient sent an explicit image of herself to a man on Snapchat.

Police spoke to the victim, who told officers the man's Snapchat and CashApp usernames. These were linked to Shannon's phone.

Police obtained Shannon's Snapchat records. They showed Shannon saying he would pay "$5 per bikini pic" and that the minor could "make as much as [she] want[s]." The pair agreed on $10 for nude photos. The minor sent him explicit photos—not of herself—that she found online, but cropped the faces out.

Shannon apparently asked if the minor had any photos or videos from "8th or 9th grade??" which he would purchase for $150.

CashApp records show $125 and $20 charges on Shannon's account on that day.

Police found numerous files of explicit child pornography on his phone, depicting 10-year-olds having sex with each other and victims as young as infants. They also discovered payments to Ryan Hine—a Missouri man who pleaded guilty to advertising child pornography—and found more explicit videos sent by Hine.

Investigators discovered Snapchat logs with a 16-year-old girl who sent him explicit videos and images in exchange for money. CashApp records show he paid her nearly $2,000 over 39 transactions from January 2021 to March 2022.

Records showed a conversation with another 16-year-old from North Carolina. Messages show Shannon coaching the teen to send him explicit videos, offering $3 for bikini photos, $5 for nude photos and more for videos. One night, he sent her $157 in payments through CashApp.

Another conversation was with a 12-year-old in Tennessee. Messages show Shannon coaching her to send explicit pictures.

Then, in July 2024, a Maryland father searched his 13-year-old daughter's phone when she was acting strange. On it, he found explicit photos and videos she'd sent to Shannon's phone. He also found screenshots of them when they met on a chat roulette site, court documents say.

Shannon apparently spoke about meeting up with the child for sex, and the two would Facetime while Shannon was on his boat in Grand Haven, police say.

This was while Shannon was out on bond for his previous child porn charges.

If convicted for all five federal charges, Shannon could face a sentence of up to 120 years in prison.

His dentist license is still active until May 2027, according to the Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs website.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

Some people create a Bucket List of the things they want to do and places they want to go before they pass away (i.e. Kick the Bucket.) This week's question: "What is your end of August list of things you want to do before September 1?

-Young girl with her mother near the grocery store in Fennville. She motioned me to move closer and whispered: "I've saved up my baby sitting money so I can take Momma to the Root Beer Barrel for a hot dog! She said we could go there today."

-Older couple, same location. Man, "Nothing I guess. We're getting too old for stuff like that." The woman nodded in agreement, then added, "Been there; done that."

-Man near the Blue Goose: "I still need to get the shed painted. I'm waiting for that sweet spot. You know, when weather not too cold or hot." His friends laughed, "You've been saying that for a couple of years." First man, again, "And don't forget I got to wait for the boards to be dry, too." Both laugh.

-Couple near the Allegan Public Library: Man: "Nothing this year." Woman, "We're hoarding every penny we can 'cause things are going to get a lot worse."

-Man near the Old Jail Museum: "Oh, the grandkids want to go to the water park up north. I said I'd take them because, well, when I'm gone, they'll have some memories of things we done together. Leastwise, I hope they do."

-Woman near the Huntingdon Bank: "Would you believe that me and Mom still can peaches. We've been doing it together for years."

-Friend with her: "And don't forget we've got to take the kids school shopping."

-First woman: "Say, that's right! My son said he didn't like those #2 pencils he had last year, so I'm going to see if they have some #1's."

-Friend: "They DON'T even make a #1 pencil. He's pulling your leg. Again."

-Couple near the Allegan Post Office: Woman: "I think things are sort of winding down for the summer, and then we'll have the fair." Man: "Parker [Johnson] has done a wonderful job with entertainment for the town." Woman: "He sure has. He always done."

ACLAC celebrates 13 years

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — Former Allegan County commissioner chairman Jim Storey reports one of the more popular initiatives to smooth Allegan County's judicial processes, the Allegan County Legal Assistance Center (ACLAC), is celebrating "13 years of access to justice" and a new courthouse location.

"Previously located in the courthouse's basement, which some patrons found hard to find, the county's courthouse modernization, underway since last year, allowed the center to move to the first floor near the building's entrance," Storey wrote in his weekly report. "Since its founding by Circuit Court Judge Margaret Zuzich Bakker and others concerned about litigants having access to legal information in civil, not criminal, matters, ACLAC's volunteer staff has assisted 33,752 patrons.

"Last month alone ACLAC served 289 patrons needing legal aid. The center provides directions for those who have a court matter but cannot afford an attorney for a civil case. Center staff, many of whom are law students, do not give legal advice, but rather provide information on how to prepare for a court appearance."

Storey added: "One unexpected public benefit of ACLAC's new location at the building's entrance is offering directions to the other offices in the building for all those new to the Courthouse layout, whether they are seeking ACLAC assistance. ACLAC is a non-profit organization funded by donations."

The annual fundraiser and award ceremony is September 23 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Fox Creek Homestead of Steve and Cheri Schulz, 3255 118th Ave., Allegan, MI 49010. Admission is $50 for music, food, and networking. Tickets can be purchased by mailing ACLAC, 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010.

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Participants, coaches sought for Total Trek challenge

By Gari Voss

Giving elementary youth the skills and strategies to stay focused on healthy life skills has been a goal of parents and teachers before written history. The world throws so many challenges at these young people that it is difficult to defer all of the negatives. But no one is giving up on building the self-confidence of youth so that when difficult situations arise, they can make a decision that is healthy for them and others. But it takes caring adults to assist in this quest.

In 1996, Molly Barker organized the first Girls on the Run in Charlotte, North Carolina. Using a self-designed, research-based curriculum, Barker sought to positively influence young girls with programming that combined running with experiential life lessons. That is, lessons that would build resilience, so that when negative societal influences hit, they would have healthy coping mechanisms. The curriculum spread and Girls on the Run events featuring girls in 3rd -8th grades can be found all over the United States each spring.

But these events did not include boys who also needed to build a tool belt of skills and strategies to say no and resist peer pressure when encountering unhealthy situations.

In 2005, Total Trek Quest came to life in Holland, MI. Finally, boys in grades 3-5 could meet twice a week after school for 9 weeks to work at mastering a 5K while developing the life skills that could assist them in conquering the pressures encountered in later middle school and early high school.

What originally began in Pathways Rehab focusing on prevention was transitioned to Arbor Circle with Leigh Moerdyke's assistance. Under the auspice of Arbor Circle, Total Trek Quest found purchase in elementary schools across five counties – Ottawa, Kent, Newaygo, Muskegon, and Allegan.

Zach Yokom, Youth Prevention Services Manager for Arbor Circle shared, "TTQ runs during the fall and spring and is made possible by community members who dedicate their time to coaching and volunteering. Each year, more than 150 volunteer coaches are needed."

Yokom quickly added, "You don't have to be a runner to be a coach! And for those who are unable to do the after school program, there are sponsorship opportunities to ensure that all boys who desire to participate can."

As the 2025-2026 school year approaches, the Total Trek Quest team of seven is working to contact 200+ elementary schools across the five counties. The first goal is to find teams of coaches. These teams of two or more must have at least one person who is 18+ and who passes a background check. The coaches will work to gather 5 to 15 boys in grades 3rd-5th who wish to participate in the Fall and/or Spring Run. This encompasses two practices per week for 9 weeks following the TTQ curriculum. If the Fall run does not fit into the coaching schedule or if the coaches and boys would like to do both, there is also a Spring Run that will again be 9 weeks with two sessions after school each week.

The TTQ curriculum gives a practice schedule that includes 45 minutes of 5K conditioning and 45 minutes of interactions to develop experiential skills through games. There are several games suggested for each session plus directions and rules.

Arbor Circle's core team is not enough to coach 200 teams for the interactive 9-week program. That means volunteers are needed in each community for each team. These individuals do not need to be runners, but they do need to focus on getting the students outside to strengthen their physical ability in preparation for the 5K, and to facilitate the games that will develop better self-confidence.

"If you have never heard of Total Trek Quest and would like to see the TTQ program at your school," Yokom suggested. "Please, contact kchan@arborcircle.org or call 616-250-1041."

Individuals interested in volunteering to make a difference in the lives of youth by developing healthy habits, building social skills, and resisting peer pressure can email kchan@arborcircle.org or call 616-250-1041. Coaches will guide 5-15 boys in grades 3-5 through 9 weeks of meetings. Twice a week, coaches will incorporate strengthening and stretching exercises with training for a 5K. During each session, coaches will facilitate activities focused on developing a healthy lifestyle and resisting peer pressure while developing positive relationships.

Each child will pay a registration fee of $50. There are scholarships available to cover this cost by contacting kchan@arborcircle.org or 616 250-1041. The kickoff event will be September 13, 2025, at Lost City in Holland. After-school meetings begin the week of September 15th. The final meeting will the 5K run on November 15, 2025.

To cover scholarships, Arbor Circle encourages businesses and individuals to sponsor a Total Trek team. Individuals and businesses can contact kchan@arborcircle.org or call 616 250-1041.

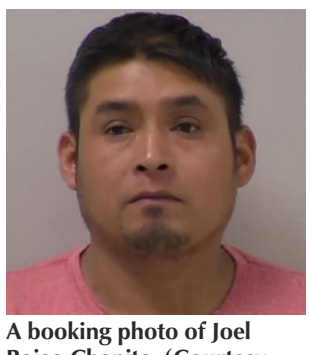
Man sentenced to prison for hitting, killing bicyclist

The man who was behind the wheel in a drunken driving crash that killed a bicyclist near Pullman last year will spend years in prison.

Joel Rojas-Chanito, 41, was sentenced Monday to three to five years in prison, with credit for nearly a year served, according to court records.

Records show he pleaded no contest to operating while intoxicated causing serious injury. Three other charges — including operating while intoxicated causing death — were dismissed.

The crash happened in September 2024 in Lee Township. Rojas-Chanito was driving an SUV when he hit a bicyclist, according to the Allegan County Sheriff's Office. Deputies said the bicyclist, 50-year-old Tracey Lynn Decker, died on scene.



A booking photo of Joel Rojas-Chanito. (Courtesy Allegan County Sheriff's Office)

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Public Notices

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Andy Ai, a married man, sole owner, ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Consumers Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated October 30, 2020, and recorded on November 4, 2020, in Liber 4533, on Page 545, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of One Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventeen Dollars and 41/100 Dollars ($152,317.41) plus accrued interest at 2.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 18, 2025. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, County of Allegan, State of Michigan and are described as: The South 208.75 feet of the West 208.75 feet of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 14, Town 2 North, Range 15 West. Commonly: 5159 118th Ave Fennville, MI 49408—Tax Id #04-014-014-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: July 31, 2025 Consumers Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340
(07-31)(08-28)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Diana Terpstra, Married Woman
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Date of Mortgage: October 24, 2016
Date of Mortgage Recording: October 28, 2016
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $125,033.51
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The West 175 feet of the East 510.73 feet of that part of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 13 West, lying South of the Pere Marquette Railroad and North of the Highway (118th Ave).
Common street address (if any): 3267 118th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010-9211
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: August 7, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1568830
(08-07)(08-28)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Victoria Harrington
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: May 13, 2022
Date of Mortgage Recording: May 20, 2022
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $132,917.40
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Hopkins, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 2 and 3 of Satterlee's Addition to the Village of Hopkins, according to the recorded plat thereof, Allegan County, Michigan.
Common street address (if any): 411 Selby St, Hopkins, MI 49328-9556
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: August 7, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1568744
(08-07)(08-28)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on SEPTEMBER 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Travis R. Berens, a single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 23, 2011 and recorded October 28, 2011 in Liber 3558, Page 369 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Nine and 8/100 Dollars ($96,179.08).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on SEPTEMBER 4, 2025.
Said premises are located in the Township of Heath, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:
Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, described as: Beginning at a point on the East line of Section 35, distant South 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds East 767.80 feet from the Northeast corner of Section 35 and proceeding thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds East 330.00 feet along the East line of Section 35; thence South 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds West 660.00 feet parallel with the South line of the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35; thence North 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds West 330.00 feet; thence 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds East 660.00 feet to the place of beginning.
2568 38th Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: August 7, 2025
File No. 25-009556
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(08-07)(08-28)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, September 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Lucy Lynn Kosiba, An Unmarried Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Homecomings Financial Network, Inc., its successors and assigns , Mortgagee, dated August 14, 2003, and recorded on September 2, 2003, in Liber 2543, Page 63, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-1 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated September 15, 2021 and recorded September 20, 2021 in Liber 4672, Page 623, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Three and 84/100 ($73,523.84) including interest at the rate of 4.00000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: The South 230 feet of the West 379 feet of the North 620 feet of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 25, Town 4 North, Range 12 West (89), Township of Dorr, County of Allegan, State of Michigan. Commonly known as: 3929 14TH ST, DORR, MI 49323 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: August 7, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-1 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00496-1
(08-07)(08-28)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 04, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Randall Overweg and Dee Ann Overweg, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: August 21, 2023 Recorded on September 5, 2023, in Document No. 2023012709, Liber 4883, on Page 318, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-One and 44/100 Dollars ($288,861.44) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Part of the East half of the Southwest 1/4 Section 16, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, Heath Township, Allegan County, Michigan described as beginning at the South 1/4 corner of Section 16 and proceeding thence along the South line of Section 16 due West 233.52 feet; thence along the centerline of an existing road North 05 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West 275.10 feet; thence South 89 degrees 39 minutes 42 seconds East 264.26 feet; thence along the North and South 1/4 line South 00 degrees 56 minutes 13 seconds West 272.31 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 4399 130th Ave, Hamilton, MI 49419 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Union Home Mortgage Corp. Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1568988
(08-07)(08-28)

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ROWAN
IN THE GENERAL COUNTY OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO. 25 CvS 577
ROWAN INVESTMENT COMPANY, INC., Plaintiff
vs. CHRISTOPHER BAKER, Defendant
TO: CHRISTOPHER BAKER
TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: for an Order requiring the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles to issue titles to the Plaintiff.
You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than the 6 day th of October, 2025. Upon your failure to do so, Plaintiff, Rowan Investment Company, Inc., will apply the Court for the relief herein sought.
This the 8 day of August, 2025. th
David Y. Bingham
Attorney for Plaintiff
113 West Council Street
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 638-0100
8-14 8-28

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Under the power of sale contained herein in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or a cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18th, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joseph J. Laroy Married Man and Pricilla Laroy, His Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), as nominee for Decision One Mortgage Company, LLC, dated September 27, 2004, and recorded September 30, 2004 in Liber 2738, Page 108, in Allegan County records, Michigan, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on November 12, 2008 in Liber 3275, Page 667, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on April 10, 2012 in Liber 3607, Page 376, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on February 24, 2014 in Liber 3816, Page 688, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, as Trustee of the FW Series I Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on May 12, 2020 in Liber 4461, Page 226, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Seventy-Six and 25/100 dollars ($117,076.25). Said premises are situated in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, and particularly described as: Lot 5, Oak View Farm, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 15 of Plats, Page 66, Allegan County Records. Property Address: 282 Zak Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 Parcel No.: 17-660-005-00 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: August 14th, 2025 For more information, please call: (440) 572-1511 Sottile and Barile PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180 Loveland, OH 45140 File MF2410006 - Laroy, Joseph J.
(08-14)(09-04)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by Stacey Workman, a single woman, as Mortgagor to United Bank of Michigan, a Michigan banking corporation, dated March 14, 2025, and recorded on April 24, 2025, in Liber 5027, Page 846, Instrument No. 2025006302, recorded in Allegan County Records, Allegan County, Michigan. The balance owing on the Mortgage is $712,724.04 at the time of this Notice. The Mortgage contains a power of sale and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part of the Mortgage. The Mortgagee will apply the sale proceeds to the debt secured by the Mortgage as stated above, plus interest on the amount due at the rate of 6.875% per annum; all legal costs and expenses, including attorney's fees allowed by law; and also any amount paid by the Mortgagee to protect its interest in the property. The property to be sold at foreclosure is all of that real estate situated in the Township of Allegan, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, described as: Unit No. 31, Riverview Estates Condominium, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 2457 on Page 438 and re-recorded in Liber 2492 on Page 682 and amendments thereto (if any), and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 189, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in above Master Deed, and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. APN #01-555-031-00 Commonly known as: 1663 Fairview Dr., Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale pursuant to MCLA 600.3240(8), unless deemed abandoned and then pursuant to the time frames provided for in MCL 600.3241a. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. August 4, 2025 UNITED BANK OF MICHIGAN, Mortgagee PLUNKETT COONEY KELLI L. BAKER (P49960) Attorney for Mortgagee 333 Bridge Street NW, Suite 530 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 (616) 752-4624
(08-14)(09-11)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Raymond L. Harris Date of Birth:*08/07/1931
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Raymond L. Harris, died July 26, 2025 .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Geraldine M. Harris, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Geraldine M. Harris
2737 116th Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent Trust
The Frank V. and Joan T. Bednarsky Trust Date of Birth: October 20, 1935 Dated November 20, 1996
TO ALL CREDITORS: *
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Frank V. Bednarsky Jr., Settlor of the Frank V. and Joan T. Bednarsky Trust dated November 20, 1996, who lived at 33 Center Street, Apt. 2, Douglas, Michigan 49406, died January 06, 2025.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Frank V. and Joan T. Bednarsky Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Frank V. Bednarsky, Jr., Trustee of the Frank V. and Joan T. Bednarsky Trust, within 4 months after the date of publication of this Notice.
Date: August 20, 2025
Paul L. Winter P44290
250 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417
(616) 847-1000
Frank V. Bednarsky Jr.
5552 Laura Drive
Shelbyville, MI 49344
(616) 293-7867

ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Trust
In the matter of the Russell C. Dubbink Living Trust dated June 13, 1990; restated on August 28, 2012 and January 19, 2022.
Russell C. Dubbink was the grantor of the Trust and his date of birth was November 19, 1940.
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Russell C. Dubbink, died August 1, 2025.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Kristin Driscoll, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
P. Haans Mulder P61842
321 Settlers Road
Holland, MI 49423
616-392-1821
Kristin Driscoll
3081 53rd Street
Hamilton, MI 49419
616-843-7912

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Ashley N. Rogers, an unmarried woman, whose address is 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERFIRST FINANCIAL CORPORATION, being a mortgage dated April 1, 2022, and recorded on April 4, 2022 in Liber 4746 Page 448, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated February 7, 2024 and recorded on February 7, 2024 in Liber 4919 Page 184, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY-SIX AND 50/100 DOLLARS ($161,946.50). Said premises are situated in the Township of Gun Plain, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: PART OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, GUN PLAIN TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN; COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 26; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 26. 412.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID WEST LINE 198.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 320.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST 198.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 47 SECONDS WEST 320.00 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 26 AND THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: August 28, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6642
(08-28)(09-18)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: TERRI ANN BROWN has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 AT 10:00 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: TERRI ANN BROWN to TERRI ANN WALKER

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following

(Continued on Page B7)

CLASSIFIEDS

Sale

Moving Sale/Garage Sale- Fri, Sat, 9/5, 9/6. 9 am to 5 pm. Rain or shine. 3208 Fair Haven Dr, Allegan. Furniture, and everything else you can think of. 8-28 9-4

Auction

Public Auction 3375 115th Ave on September 5 2025 10:00am 2004 Dodge 3D7MU48C34G244275

Misc.

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-861-4501

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Cell Service

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"Dozer & Loader Work"
• sand • crushed concrete
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Call 269-377-3950

C	A	B	S			S	S	C
B	L	O	C	S		U	C	A
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	S	A	B	O	T		C	W
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8	6	9	1	7	5	2	3	4
9	5	3	8	1	2	6	4	7
1	8	4	6	3	7	9	5	2
6	2	7	5	4	9	3	8	1

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CONSTRUCTION
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Redi-Mix Concrete
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673-6352
Babylon Road, Allegan

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Saint Joseph County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tammy Smith

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: October 23, 2006

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 16, 2006

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $77,146.08

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Constantine, Saint Joseph County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 1, Northpark, according to plat of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for

St. Joseph County, Michigan in

Liber 4 of Plats, Page 71.

Common street address (if any): 64517 US Highway 131 N, Constantine, MI 49042-9660

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 29, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1570528
(08-29)(09-19)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate
Sharon R. Rowder ("Decedent")
Date of Decedent's Birth: August 22, 1942

Name of Trust: Sharon R. Rowder Trust dated October 16, 2014

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent, Sharon R. Rowder died July 3, 2025. There is no personal representative of Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent, Decedent's estate, and/or Decedent's trust(s) will be forever barred unless presented to Trustee Ryan D. Rowder within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: August 18, 2025
Douglas J. Brackmann (P-40885)
WESSELING & BRACKMANN P.C.
6439 28th Avenue
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426
(616) 669-8185
Ryan D. Rowder
1004 Potomac Court
Grayslake, IL 60030

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of: Clifford Prins
Date of Birth: 03/27/1930
and Clifford and Henrietta Prins Trust u/a/d 3/19/1983

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Clifford Prins, died on July 13, 2025. He is the Grantor of a trust, the Clifford and Henrietta Prins Trust u/a/d 3/19/1983, as amended. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate/trust will be forever barred unless presented to Carol Westenbroek, Trustee, within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Date: August 20, 2025
Attorney:
Edwin J. Vander Ploeg, Jr. (P46255)
Hoesch & Vander Ploeg, PLC
156 W. Washington Avenue
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 772-5221
Trustee:
Carol Westenbroek
14792 James St.
Holland, MI 49424
(616) 312-4392

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): James P. Huey and Betty A. Huey, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT LLC

Date of Mortgage: March 27, 2013

Date of Mortgage Recording: April 2, 2013

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $83,831.29

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of the Village of Douglas, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 21, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, Village of Douglas, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 1798.13 feet along the North line of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds East 60.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 49.96 feet along the South right of way line of 130th Avenue to the point of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds East 291.40 feet; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 111.04 feet; thence North 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds West (previously described as East) 291.40 feet; thence South 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds West 111.04 feet along the South right of way of 130th Avenue to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 173 Wiley Rd, Douglas, MI 49406-5169

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 28, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1570317
(08-28)(09-18)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Garrett Jon Heasley, single man, whose address is 4289 30th Street, Burnips, Michigan 49314, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD LOANS, INC., being a mortgage dated December 3, 2021, and recorded on December 9, 2021 in Liber 4706 Page 593 said mortgage was modified by a loan modification agreement, dated March 18, 2024, recorded April 4, 2024, Liber 4932 Page 41, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and assigned by said mortgagee through mesne assignments to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated November 30, 2023 and recorded on December 14, 2023 in Liber 4909 Page 2, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of NINETY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE AND 02/100 DOLLARS ($96,935.02). Said premises are situated in the Township of Salem, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: COMMENCING 214.5 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4; THENCE EAST 326.21 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 66 FEET; THENCE WEST 326.21 FEET; THENCE NORTH 66 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SECTION 15, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, SALEM TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Street Address: 4289 30th Street, Burnips, Michigan 49314 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: August 28, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6652

(08-28)(09-18)

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Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Aug. 28, 1950

Deer hunters disappointed: A good many county hunters who have applied for special permits to hunt here during the antlerless deer season, Dec. 1 to 10, may be disappointed, the conservation department reports.

Incorrectly made out applications may disqualify them. Too many cards are being made out with no signature, address or designation of desired hunting area. Applicants are urged to read instructions on the cards they obtain from license dealers.

The special season, for the purpose of reducing farm and crop damage, is limited to 2,300 hunters in a special Allegan County area between Dec. 1 and 10.

Deer of any age or sex will be legal for 19,500 more hunters from Dec. 1 to 5 in several northern Michigan counties.

Aug. 28, 1975

Mechanic's light ignites explosive fire: A raging fire, apparently touched off by a mechanic's light and spilled petroleum products, heavily damaged three businesses along Water Street in Allegan Tuesday evening.

But six Allegan fire trucks and 29 volunteer firemen, assisted by three trucks and more than a dozen men from Otsego, quickly brought flames under control and limited the heaviest damage to two businesses.

Fire Chief R.G. "Bud" Blanz said Wednesday morning that preliminary reports indicate the fire originated as Eddie Wedge attempted to repair a leak in a fuel tank truck parked in the garage area at Wedge Oil & Gas at 420 Water Street.

Petroleum fluids, apparently a mixture of oil and gasoline, had leaked from one of the truck's tanks into a bulkhead that separates the various tank sections within the truck.

Aug. 31, 2000

National cartoonist visits his old school: Dave Coverley has such a youthful, devil-may-care look, staff at the Plainwell Middle School gymnasium might have easily mistaken him for a high school student in the wrong building on the wrong day for the start of school.

Instead, Coverley served as guest of honor, featured speaker, native son returning to his hometown after making good in the wide world.

The occasion was the annual kickoff of the school year for Plainwell staff. Following recognition of personnel from all buildings, including new and not-so-new teachers, longtime journalism instructor Kenneth Zelnis came to the podium to introduce Coverley. Zelnis said his former student had the traits of a cartoonist from an early age.

"He was a little bit twisted," Zelnis said.

Coverley draws the cartoon syndicated under the heading Speed Bump. His work appears in some 200 newspapers around the world. Zelnis said Coverley's first book of Speed Bump cartoons will be published next spring.

Coverley gave a crowd-pleasing speech. His style mixed flights of insightful humor with moments of boyish openness. Both sides, the madcap and the serious, came from an honest and unblinkered view of the world. He credited his parents, teachers, Zelnis above all, with helping him along the bumpy road to success.

"I'm a product of Plainwell schools," Coverley said. "I got the cartoon bug in about third grade. Now, I'm in a field where the odds are long against making it."

Aug. 27, 2020

Fate of volleyball, boys soccer, girls swim remains in limbo: The Michigan High School Athletic Association recently announced that football will move from the fall to the spring, while cross country, boys' tennis and girls' golf have been given the go ahead to proceed as usual.

On Thursday, Aug. 20, the remaining three fall sports—volleyball, boys' soccer and girls' swim & dive—received word on their fate … kind of.

The MHSAA approved the start of competition in those three sports in regions of Michigan authorized for that activity by Governor Gretchen Whitmer's executive orders. In all other regions, competition in those sports remains on hold.

In other words, schools in Region 6 (northern Lower Peninsula) and Region 8 (Upper Peninsula) are allowed to start competition in those sports since they are in Phase 5 of Whitmer's MI Safe Start Plan. The state's other six regions—including Region 3, of which Allegan County is a part—remain in Phase 4, and therefore can continue to practice outside, but are not allowed to start competition at this time.

The MHSAA's Representative Council was prepared to approve competition in volleyball, boys' soccer and girls' swim & dive in all regions, but was unable to do so as it awaited further guidance from Whitmer's office.

MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl hopes that guidance comes sooner rather than later as teams remain in limbo.

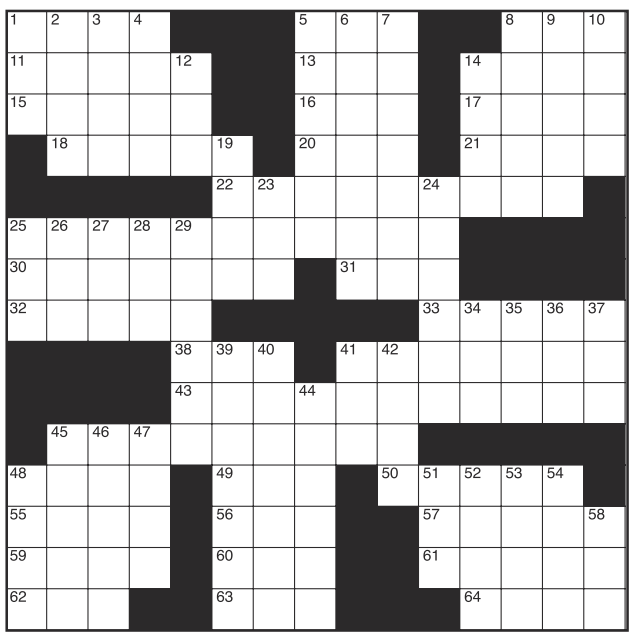
"Our Council has made clear it is ready to offer students these opportunities, pending approval from Governor Whitmer that we may do so," Uyl said. "We have been told that within a week, future guidance will address athletic issues that exist in current executive orders. We are awaiting that guidance.

"The MHSAA and Representative Council are committed to following all current and future Executive Orders and safety precautions. However, we need more answers before we can give all of our member schools the go-ahead to play each other again, and the majority of our schools are in regions that are not yet allowed to take part in volleyball, soccer and swim."

Allegan volunteer firemen poured thousands of gallons of water into the burning Wedge Oil & Gas Company Tuesday evening and donned Scot-Air-Paks to carry their hoses to the source of the flames that gutted the oil firm and heavily damaged two other businesses and the I.O.O.F. Lodge. **(More pictures on page 3).**

News & Gazette photo

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Taxis
5. Space Systems Command
8. Plant seed by scattering
11. Alliances
13. Fiddler crabs
14. Heroic tale
15. Yemen capital
16. Misleading gesture
17. Cain and __
18. Simple shoe
20. Hundredweight
21. Children's toy in the snow
22. Gets rid of
25. Free of deceit
30. Performed a dance
31. Chinese philosophical principle
32. Exaggerated
33. Refrain from inflicting
38. A doctrine
41. Can be subdued
43. A place to bathe
45. Land used for pasture
48. Curved piece of iron
49. Automobile
50. Fencing sword
55. Breezes through
56. Child
57. NBA legend Iverson
59. Horsley and Iacocca are two
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. U.S. leader during much of WW2
63. Lair
64. Fibrous material

CLUES DOWN
1. Home of '60 Minutes'
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. __ fide: legitimate
4. Immune response
5. Assistance and support
6. Glared
7. Spanish saloon
8. Pitch black
9. S-shaped lines
10. Statistical test
12. __ Paulo, city
14. Graduation garb
19. A way to record
23. Not good
24. Weather events
25. A pituitary hormone
26. Jamie Foxx film
27. Rocker's accessory
28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains pleasure from another's pain
34. Consume
35. Licensed for Wall Street
36. Sick
37. Israeli city __ Aviv
39. Removed the husk
40. Mass of rocks and sediment
41. Two-year-old sheep
42. Area units
44. Prison overseer
45. Walked
46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier
47. Tax
48. 50 percent
51. Swiss river
52. Tattle
53. Actor Idris
54. Resist authority (slang)
58. Egg of a louse

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Deaths

July 13, 2025
LINDA RAE JACKOBS, 73, HOlland

August 2, 2025
STEVEN SWIDWA, 69, Dorr Twp.

August 4, 2024
BILL BRODIE HALBERT, 96, Fillmore Twp.
MARK WAYNE VARNER, 60, Valley Twp.
EDNA MARY FLEMING, 79, Casco Twp.

August 6, 2025
G DANIEL MCNEIL, 76, Monterey Twp.

August 7, 2025
DANIEL SCOTT CHAPMAN, 55, Gun Plain Twp.
BRADLEY BYRON MOORER, 49, Laketown Twp.

August 9, 2025
GEORGE AGUILAR, 78, Manlius

August 10, 2025
ALICE MARIE BOYCE, 89, Martin Twp.

August 11, 2025
VATSANA BOUNYANOI, 56, Holland

August 12, 2025
JANICE KAY MISNER, 80, Plainwell

August 13, 2025
SHARON L HANSEN, 77, Plainwell

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Aug. 12 and Aug. 20:

LEE KALVIN KUPERUS, Byron Center, and **RACHAEL ANN BOSSE**, Wayland

NADIA CHAVONNE ALLEN, Allegan, and **HUNTER PATRICK YETZKE**, Allegan

OLIVIA MAE SIMMONS, Holland, and **TYLER JOSEPH MILLER**, Holland

ALEXANDER JACOB EASTMAN, Holland, and **MADELINE LEIGH TUNISON**, Holland

JESSE AARON MILING, Dorr, and **LINDSEY MARIE HOEKMAN**, Hudsonville

BRYCE DAVID YOUNGER, Allegan, and **ALYSSA DAWN HOLUB**, Allegan

CHRISTOPHER CHARLES TATE, Shelbyville, and **CASSANDRA JEAN SANDERSON**, Shelbyville

LOGAN ALEXANDER PAGE, Grand Junction, and **DARCY LYNN VANPATTEN**, Allegan

NANCY ANN SNYDER, Otsego, and **NICHOLES ANTHONY SANCHEZ**, Otsego

ANTHONY LEE SEEKMAN, Otsego, and **DESIREE LEEANN KNIGHT KEYZER**, Otsego

BREANNE LYN SIMPSON, Otsego, and **DRAYVEN JAMES WESTFALL KENNEDY**, Otsego

JAYLYNN MARIE KNIGHT, Plainwell, and **BRYANT C DEBOLT III**, Plainwell

THOMAS KURT JEKEL, Hamilton, and **EVONNE G AMAYA**, Fort Wayne, IN

ELLE JO HUMPHRIES, Dorr, and **TRAVIS DAVID GROOM**, Dorr

HANNAH LEIGH GAWTHORP, Hopkins, and **DAVID MYRON WALLS III**, Hopkins

DOMINIK HENRY DZIERZYC, Wayland, and **BIONCA LEE ROBINSON**, Wayland

OLIVER SHANE HINDENACH, Dorr, and **MADELYNN LEXI SHEHORN**, Dorr

KATELYN MARIE KRUITHOF, Holland, and **CHRISTOPHER JON SCHOLTEN**, Hamilton

MARK NICHOLAS PERLOS, Saugatuck, and **MARGOT TALBERT**, Saugatuck

WESLEY MORGAN ARNOLD, Saugatuck, and **BENJAMIN BRUCE SHASHAGUAY**, Saugatuck

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

				5	1	8		
5		2	9	8			7	6
	3	8	7				9	
2	4	5					1	
	7			9			6	8
	6		1					4
	5	3						7
1		4	6		7			2
		7	5					

(See Solution Page B7)

RELIGION SECTION

I want to return to the first chapter of St Luke's Gospel so we can further explore Mary's wonderful declaration of faith in the Magnificat. It begins, "My soul doth magnify the Lord." Last week looked at how we apply the word 'magnify' to our own life and relationship with God and others. However, we cannot stop there; there is more for us to learn

In effect, Mary is making a clear statement that she is aware of at least some of the challenges she will be facing as the mother of Jesus. She is not backing down nor running away from the dangers and work ahead. It is an unknown future, spooky in many ways, and will be filled with joy and heartache. Her situation reminds me of a very good friend who has faced a number of challenges. When confronted with a new one, she pauses to assess the situation, perhaps swallows hard a few times and very firmly says, "I am qualified. I am capable." With that, she quietly moves forward with laser like determination and focus.

There are many men and women much like my friend. Some of them encourage others to keep moving forward by their teachings. Others do it far more effectively by example. Hemingway wrote the hardest lesson he learned as an adult was to embrace the restless need to keep going, no matter how broken he felt inside. Then he showed what he meant. Hemingway may have been a complex and difficult person, but his words and actions were integrated.

In his novel, The Old Man and the Sea, he wrote, "Now is not the time to think of what you do not have. Think of what you can do with what there is."

Sometimes it means we need to follow the advice in his book Hills Like White Elephants, where the hero has listened to much complaining and nervous prattle, finally shouted, "Can you please, please, please, please, please, please, please stop talking!" We need silence to focus. Even if there is no one in the room with us, all too often our voice gets in the way of progress.

The performing and visual arts, like so much of life, including our spiritual relationship with God and putting his instructions to work, rarely come with great ease. Truly great artists might make their craft look easy, but they know the hard work and perseverance. I saw a good example at home, in Pat's studio. For years, Pat's sons had watched her paint and admired her talent. In middle age, they decided they wanted to learn, and for a while studied under her. They came to Saugatuck and worked together. Then, after a long week or even a weekend, they would return home exhausted, but eager to continue. It was not long before they were struggling and thinking about stabbing a knife into the canvas. Instead, they telephoned their mother. She listened and quietly told them, "Keep going."

That is an instruction for all of life, including our spiritual life and faithfully working to be a practical, practicing Christian. "Sempra Avanti!" - always move forward. And we can, because we are qualified and we are capable.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
410 E. Orleans St.
Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488
RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157
Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352
Allegan Eyecare Complete Eye Care for the Entire Family 123 Locust St., Allegan 673-5100 • 1-800-797-4351 www.alleganeyecare.com
LEGG LUMBER & Hardware Where the Builders Go! We deliver 730 River St., Allegan 269.673.4470 www.legglumber.com
NAPA AUTO PARTS 1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 269-673-3080
Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com
A&A ANTKOVIAK & ANTKOVIAK PC For all your legal services 416 Hubbard St, Allegan • (269) 673-8468 antkoviak@frontier.com
Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net
God Integrity Vision Encouragement He Opens People's Eyes www.HOPKINSPROPANE.com
To sponsor this page and join these community-minded businesses, call 269-673-5534.
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Cheri Sleeman Schulz Associate Broker, REALTOR 269-720-4735 cherischulz@bhhsmi.com 430 Western Avenue, Allegan